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## Calendar of Events

City-wide garage sale  
is coming soon

Romulus residents who want to rid themselves of some things that have been cluttering their homes can do so on the weekend of May 15-18 during the annual city-wide garage sale.

The sale gives residents the opportunity to have a yard sale without a paying for a permit.

However, residents planning to hold a garage sale must complete a no-fee permit at the parks and recreation department before 5 p.m. April 23.

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

### Scrapbooking adventure planned

The Romulus Recreation Department is sponsoring a series of scrapbooking get-togethers at the Shook Road facility.

At the class, which is limited to the first 12 people who sign up, participants will have at least 3 feet of crop space; snacks, water and dinner; supplies; a raffle drawing for an additional fee and a door prize drawing.

Classes will take place from noon-9 p.m. and are open to adults 16 and older.

The cost of individual classes is \$20 (cash only).

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

### Mom-to-mom sale set

Moms who seek to obtain high-quality used items are invited to the annual Mom-to-Mom sale.

The sale is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 10 at the Romulus Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga Road.

Table Rental is \$20 for a 10-foot by 8-foot space with a table. Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged.

Concessions will be available.

For more information, call Romulus Parks and Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

### Yoga classes offered

Instructor Belinda Patrick will teach a beginner class that focuses on moving your body in a mindful and gentle way.

The goal of gentle yoga is to reduce stress, improve flexibility, strength, balance, and promote overall well-being. Participants will be required to bring a yoga mat.

Other props will be used and discussed in class.

The classes will take place at the Romulus Recreation Department from noon until 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Costs for new students are \$42 for a one-class cycle, and \$78 for a two-class cycle. Returning students can take part in the classes for \$40 and \$60, respectively.

Compiled by Staff Writer Molly Tippen. To publish an event, send an e-mail to [mtippen@journalgroup.com](mailto:mtippen@journalgroup.com).

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## Commissioner: Airport plan needs scrutiny

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

Though county administration appears to be taking a vague approach to the Wayne County Airport Authority master plan, some members of the county commission are urging the airport to only expand within current borders.

Edward Boike, the commissioner who represents the City of Romulus, said in an interview last week that he thought the airport plan was "premature," and that he applauded the decision to delay until May 22 a decision on the final plan.

"I thought it was a good idea to wait, and it was in large part our appointee on the authority (Bernard Parker) that the decision was made to wait," he said. "I definitely think the airport should expand only within its borders."

"The decision to move forward would have been premature, and the public had little information about the plan at the time," he added.

Boike's decision to speak out about the plan

*The decision to move forward would have been premature, and the public had little information about the plan at the time.*

Edward Boike

was prompted by a statement released last week by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano that seems to support the idea of a fifth parallel runway. The statement stopped short of endorsing the current expansion plan, however.

"In order to compete globally, the airport will have to expand," said Ficano. "Larger planes are being built and runways are needed to accommodate their needs. The airport employs thousands of people and the expansion would only translate into more jobs. However, we encourage the air-

port authority to listen to reasonable concerns of citizens and accommodate legitimate issues," he said.

### The plan

The master plan was devised by consultants hired by the authority in 2006, and was undertaken by the airport in accordance to Federal Aviation Administration rules to devise a plan to meet what airport officials believe will be increased usage by business and leisure travelers in the next two decades, according to airport officials.

If implemented, the plan would effectively reduce the size of the City of Romulus by about 7 percent, and potentially by 3,500 residents.

Among the changes is the addition of a fifth parallel runway along Eureka Road. The runway remains the most controversial part of the plan because many businesses and homes would have

See Airport, page 4



### First step

Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert and Public Safety Director Charles Kirby are calling for zero tolerance for violence against women in the community. Both Lambert and Kirby are strongly endorsing efforts of First Step, a non-profit domestic violence prevention group, to raise awareness of sex crimes. Lambert and Kirby signed a proclamation circulated in area communities by First Step, which offers services such as a 24-hour telephone help line, shelter, counseling, prevention programs and in-hospital support for victims of sexual assault.

## Strawberry Festival moves to high school

Andrea King  
Staff Writer

The 2008 Belleville National Strawberry Festival will not move to Main Street, but will be located at Belleville High School.

Joan Bodnar, executive director for the festival, went before city council Monday asking officials to move vendors back to Main Street now that the road construction isn't going to occur. The carnival would remain at the high school, under her proposal.

"The vendors like Main Street and it sells the festival," she said. "We did address the carnival issue and there were no problems on Main Street at all last year that I was aware of."

Councilman George Chedraue said incidents of unruly crowds last year affected the entire festival and the City of Belleville.

"The tapes were pretty bad," he said. "We're responsible for the citizens on the streets who are scared, what insurance do you have for them?"

Police Chief Gene Taylor said he, too, is concerned with safety and the current festival budget doesn't reflect an increase in officers needed for crowd control. It would cost about \$31,000 to get the additional manpower in, he said.

"I don't want to preclude them from having their festival, but maybe they should come back when they're certain," said Chedraue. "Personally, I would say no to moving it on Main Street, but I'm not elected for my personal beliefs. We need a comprehensive document on security, what they're planning to do and how they're going to get there."

Officials weren't the only people concerned. Business owners and residents said they didn't want a repeat of last year's strawberry festival, either.

"I live across from Victory Park and I was terrified," said resident Vivian Munday.

"There was kids going through my trash; I was appalled at what people did to people's yards. I don't see how the vendors are helping

the businesses in the city; they're not bringing people downtown to shop. You can't even get down the street. I don't think it benefits Belleville to have vendors on Main Street."

"I'm down for a week from the festival," said Jane Vesche, owner of Main Street Flowers. "When they put tents up in front of our stores you don't see our quaint downtown shops."

"The city and the citizens get no revenue. What does this do for the tax paying citizens and businesses of the community?" said resident Kim Tindall.

Resident Mike Renaud said kids are like water, if you block off a path they will use Main Street and increase the burden of people there.

"It's the price you pay for having the carnival," he said.

Mayor Richard Smith said he's in favor of the festival at Belleville High School, which might "actually work out better." Officials won't know that until they actually try it, he said.

## Examination delayed in fatal beating

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

Family members of a woman killed in her home in October will have to wait a few weeks longer to know if there's sufficient evidence to try the man police believe committed the crime.

Attorneys for the defendant, Joseph Perron, 33 and of Dearborn Heights, were granted a request for a continuance of three weeks by the court.

Ronald White, Perron's attorney, said last week that he and his staff had not gone through the large amount of evidence collected by police. Prosecutors did not object to White's request, and Judge Sylvia A. James of the 22nd District Court in Inkster rescheduled the pre-trial examination for April 23.

"We will do so on the condition that it's understood that the defense is asking for (the continuance)," she said.

The defense agreed that it would not attempt to legally challenge Perron's right to a speedy trial based on the request.

Perron is facing one count of first-degree murder and an additional count of felony murder for allegedly beating Keisha Penny, a 29-year-old single mother who had recently moved to Inkster.

On Oct. 22, Inkster patrol officers were dispatched to Penny's rented home on the 3500 block of Harriet Street after her boyfriend, who lived at the home, called police at about 4:30 p.m.

Inside, they found Penny severely beaten and stabbed, with blood in virtually every corner of the home.

Homicide detectives were immediately called, along with crime scene investigators from the Michigan State Police.

During the next 17 hours, the detectives interviewed neighbors and other witnesses, collected evidence, and re-created what they believe happened in the house.

Inside the home, a wall-mounted air conditioner was found on the floor, along with a claw hammer and a knife that

See Death, page 4

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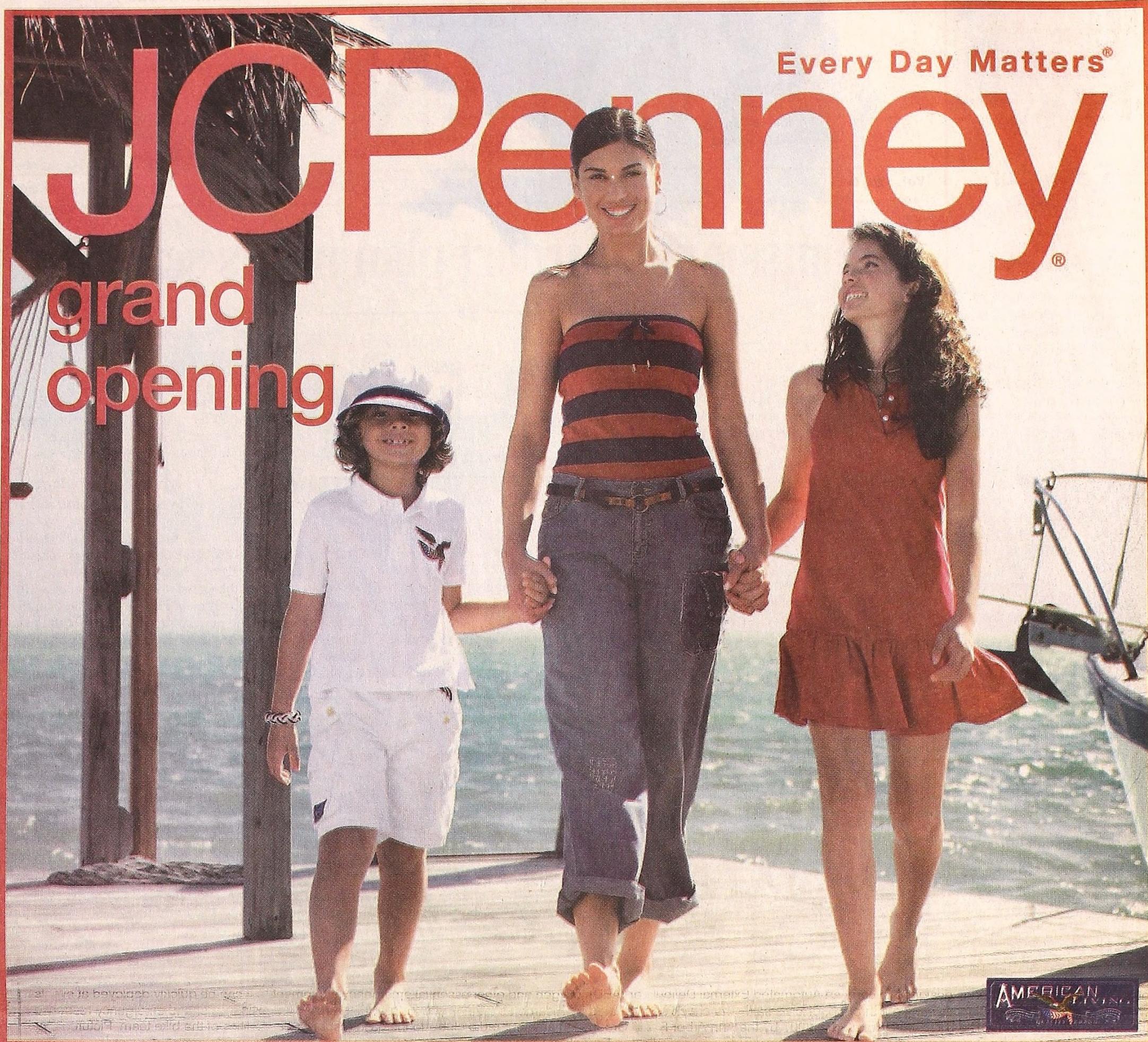
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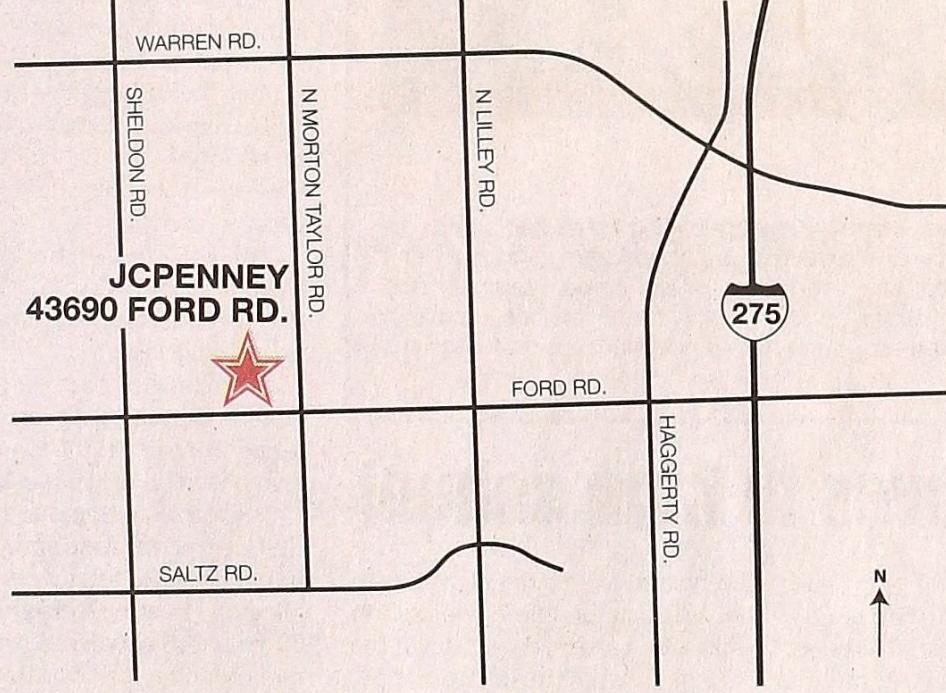
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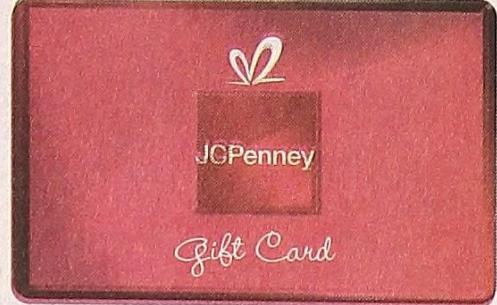


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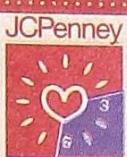
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# One drop at a time

## Students plan event to help build African well

**Andrea King**  
Staff Writer

For most of us, getting a drink of water is as easy as turning on the faucet. That's not the case in Sub-Saharan Africa, where safe drinking water can be the key to survival and is very scarce.

"More than half of all people don't have access to safe drinking water and those who do might need to walk up to 10 miles to reach it," said Steve Hudock, a social studies teacher at North Middle School where seventh grade students are working to generate funds to build a well in an African village.

"The amount of water we use in a week, would take a month and a half to collect for a family over there," he said.

"As a student, they can make a difference in people's lives and, we want them to be an active part in the global society," he added.

Hudock, along with fellow social studies teacher Ron Hoepfner, planned the service project around the cross-cultural unit they are teaching students about Africa, as well as the troubles facing the continent. They did the research and found the African Well Fund (AWF), a non-profit organization dedicated to building and maintaining wells in

*The amount of water we use in a week, would take a month and a half to collect for a family over there.*

**Steve Hudock**

water-sparse regions in Africa. The main focus is lack of clean water in three African countries: Angola, Mali and Niger.

The students hope to raise about \$3,500, enough to build the well and

educate the recipients on its use, school officials said.

"They're giving back, helping others and I hope the learn what it means to put someone else first," said Hudock. "The kids are excited and we want to get them to make a difference."

A spaghetti dinner fundraiser will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on April 24 at the school. A \$3 or more donation is suggested per person. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, door prizes and an open-gym fundraiser for \$1. To make a reservation, call (734) 697-9171, email shudock@vanburenschools.net or email rhoepfner@vanburen-

schools.net.

Donations can also be sent to: North Middle School c/o Steve Hudock, 47097 McBride St., Belleville, MI, 48111 by May 9.

"We're sending flyers to district employees and we're seeing the kids emerge as leaders for ways to raise funds, so we're well on our way to reach our goal," said Hudock.

"Hopefully, they'll take advantage of the opportunities they get in this community, like education," said Hoepfner. "The opportunities here are far above that of Africa and this (project) is the world's responsibility."



### Safety first

The Ricardo Corp. in Van Buren Township recently donated \$750 to the Van Buren Township Fire-Rescue Department to assist the EMS bike team. The funds will go toward six new bikes and special pannier bags designed to carry an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), oxygen and other essential emergency equipment that can be quickly deployed at events where fire trucks and ambulances can't get through, officials said. The check was donated by Ricardo as a thank-you for providing on-site fire extinguisher and emergency response training for staff members. The bikes were donated in 2007 by the Ann Arbor Radio Group—an amateur radio club—to increase response capabilities of the bike team. Pictured are: Lt. Dan Besson of the Van Buren Township Fire Department and EMS bike coordinator; Firefighter Charles Dewitt and Ted Byrne, Bob Neighbors and Tony Walsh of Ricardo.

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# Kuderik stresses experience in upcoming election

Molly King  
Staff Writer

Tom Kuderik, who is seeking a second term on the Romulus Community School Board, said the district is facing an uphill battle during unprecedented times, and that experience will count as board members steer policy for the next four years.

"I've put a lot of effort into learning as much as I can about being on the school board, and there are so many issues that you have to keep up with," he said. "I've attended many classes through MASB (Michigan Association of School Boards), and I think experience counts."

Kuderik, who is the only incumbent seeking one of the two, four-year seats on the seven-member board, is facing competition from four competitors. In the past four

*"It's going to be a good thing for the students because there will be more of a chance for students to take electives or career tech classes, which is why we did it."*

Tom Kuderik

years, he's had to tackle budget deficits, layoffs, enrollment issues, and other problems.

"I think the hardest thing I ever had to do was the layoffs," he said. "Many of those people live in the community, and though several were called back, it's still hard."

If re-elected, Kuderik said test scores, enrollment, and competition would be among the first order of business.

"One thing I do think we need to do is get the word out about the programs we do have," he said. "I

think we offer a lot to students — we have two Blue Ribbon Schools — and we need to find out why people who live here would send their students to charter schools, or to other school districts."

Enrollment is a key piece of the district's ability to be successful, Kuderik said.

"Funding is attached to enrollment, and we need to make sure that we maintain the number of students," he said.

Test scores are also an issue, Kuderik said.

"All of our buildings made AYP (Annual Yearly Progress)," he said. "But we can still do better."

Kuderik said he's most proud of helping to broker through the new trimesters program for high school students, along with the rest of the board.

"It's going to be a good thing for the students because there will be more of a chance for students to take electives or career tech classes, which is why we did it," he said.

"Also, if a student didn't do well in a class, he or she would be able to re-take it (without interrupting his or her schedule)," he added.

Kuderik has lived in Romulus since the late 1960s, and said he's seen a lot of changes in the community.

He is employed as an operations for Waste Management, a disposal company. Kuderik also received training during six years in the U.S.



Tom Kuderik

Army.

Romulus Community Schools educates 4,200 students. It operates eight facilities; one high school, a middle school, an alternative high school, and five middle schools.

The school board election is May 6.

# Van Buren launches new undercover investigations unit

Andrea King  
Staff Writer

If citizens don't notice the newest law enforcement officers in Van Buren Township, then they have achieved one of their goals.

The new officers are part of the undercover Special Investigations Unit (SIU) funded by the public safety millage approved by voters.

"This is something that many police departments have and was something put together to meet the needs of the township," according to Capt. Greg Laurain, who oversees the new team.

"Van Buren needs this unit because of increased crime," said Jerry Champagne, director of the public safety department. "We've identified narcotic and other major

## 2 new retailers open in Canton Township

Scott Spielman  
Editor

The residential market may be drying up and municipalities faced with shrinking budgets, but it's not all bad news in Canton Township.

"The retail sector is doing well," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

The township welcomed its two newest additions this week. A new Kohl's store opened on Michigan Avenue west of Beck Road on Wednesday and a stand-alone JC Penney store opened on Ford Road between Morton Taylor and Sheldon roads.

"It's good news," said Yack.

The Kohl's store is the second in the township and designed to attract the growing population of at the south portion of the township as well as communities like Van Buren Township, Belleville and the City of Wayne.

It joins a strip mall that also saw a new Target store—which is

also the second in Canton—and has space set aside for an Old Navy, too.

K.C. Schrade, the district manager in charge of the new Michigan Avenue department store as well as the Kohl's in the northern part of the township on Ford Road said the company is excited to bring another store to Canton and western Wayne County.

"The township is a great place to be," she said. "We have a great relationship with the township. It's a place where we needed to add another store."

The first location is at the corner of Sheldon and Ford roads, in the site of a former K-Mart. The success of the first store opened the door for the second, she added. That success, she attributed to offering quality items at a reasonable price.

"We understand that everyone is on a budget," Schrade said.

Schrade said the new Canton location is a part of an overall

plan to expand the 1,000-store chain to a 1,400-store chain by 2012.

As with the first, she said she wants the new location to be an integral part of the community, giving back when possible. Schrade, who has been with Kohl's since 1997, said Kohl's has generated more than \$102 million for charities and employees have logged 85,000 hours of volunteer work through its Kohl's Care for Kids program. Shoppers who buy Dr. Suess products there will have a portion of purchase go toward Detroit's Children's Hospital and the Detroit area Make-A-Wish Foundation. The store has also donated to the Plymouth-Canton Community School District.

The JC Penney store is about a 110,000 standalone structure that follows the recent trend of the company to locate outside of traditional malls.

Staff writer Lester Holmes contributed to this story.

## Airport

FROM PAGE 1

to be demolished to provide adequate space.

An underground or aboveground monorail system could be added to transport travelers and employees around the airport grounds by 2013. A cargo operation could be added near the Wayne-Vining Road area.

A land acquisition process would then begin, and the city would likely lose the 350-unit Sky Harbor Apartments, 30 industrial buildings, 18 commercial buildings, at least one subdivision, and Merriman Elementary School.

In all, about 800 residences would be demolished, and the city could stand to lose almost \$1 million in assessed revenue, according to the city. The school district could lose as much as \$1.7 million in revenue.

The three-phase master plan

outlines an expansion that would take until 2027 to complete. Passenger traffic would need to increase by 2.3 percent to trigger the process to move forward, and short of that growth, the plan would exist on only paper.

### Authority questioned

The controversy about the airport plan is also making some commissioners wonder about the conventional wisdom of having an authority.

Boike believes the entire situation might be better managed if the commission had control of the airport.

"We have no oversight of what happens there, it may work better for us if we have control of the airport in a direct way," he said.

The seven-member authority was created after state Legislature approved Senate Bill 690 in 2002 to create an authority to steer policy and undertake all management of Detroit Metro and Willow Run air-

ports.

"I think the world of Commissioner Boike," said Michael Conway, a spokesman for the authority. "I have vast amount of respect for the commissioner, but I have to say I think the airport is running more efficiently from an operational standpoint under the authority. There's less bureaucracy."

Four authority members are appointed by the Wayne County executive, two members are appointed by the governor, and one member is appointed by the Wayne County Commission. Terms of the appointments range from two to eight years.

Boike said there's been no talk of attempting to have the authority dissolved through additional legislation.

"There's been no talk of pursuing anything like that yet — we would have to speak with Mr. Ficano to find out if the administration wanted the airport back."

male matching Perron's description at the home on the day of the fatal attack.

At some point, Perron volunteered to provide a DNA sample to investigators, and the sample was matched to several items found at the home.

Investigators believe that Perron may have been at the home looking for drugs, police said.

Police believe Penny's 15-month-old child was in the home during the attack.

Perron, a former Northwest Airlines worker, was arrested in late March at a Muskegon drug treatment facility by Inkster homicide detectives.

Pre-trial examinations are conducted at local courts to determine whether there is enough evidence to support criminal

charges against an individual. There is a 14-day rule for the procedure, but one or both sides can ask for a continuance.

Granting the extension is at the discretion of the judge.

Michigan does not provide for bond in first-degree murder cases. Perron will remain at the Wayne County Jail until his next court date.

Day to day, there's walk-

ins and complaints and those are the things consuming my day," he said. "If you wait until September, you'd have to bear with me and things won't get done. Personally, I'd be scared to wait until September."

Another possibility in the future is to re-vamp the city charter to make changes to position job descriptions, like the city manager.

Fees for using the MML would take place only if a city manager is found, then the cost would be 10 percent of the first year's salary. If unsuccessful in the search, the only fee MML would be advertising expenses, according to officials.

Keith Boc,

director of the department of public services, said things have been challenging on his part, as well.

"Day to day, there's walk-

ins and complaints and those are the things consuming my day," he said. "If you wait until September, you'd have to bear with me and things won't get done. Personally, I'd be scared to wait until September."

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## Death

FROM PAGE 1

apparently were used in the attack on Penny. Blood evidence was obtained from two vehicles parked outside the home.

Witnesses told police they saw a white

male matching Perron's description at the home on the day of the fatal attack.

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 1, 2008**

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Clair, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Parks and Recreation Director Ross, DPW Director Knepper, Parks Manager Mulkey, Public Safety Director Champagne, Engineer Nummer, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of seventeen (17).

Supervisor King requested a moment of silence be held in honor of Imogene Pence, a retired employee of the Township, who recently passed away.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on the Township's proposed Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) project. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Director Knepper for a presentation of the DWRF project. Director Knepper stated the DWRF program is a low interest loan program through the State of Michigan, and a drinking water system improvement plan has been developed. One of the requirements for the DWRF program is this public hearing to present the DWRF project and to receive public comment. The public comment period began February 28, 2008 when the notice was published, and ends April 15, 2008. A copy of the project plan is available for review at Township Hall. Director Knepper presented the project as follows. Needs and problems to be address by the project are: sufficient water pressure in system, balance the daily fluctuations in use, system redundancy, improve water quality and additional source connection to Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD). These have all been identified in the 2004 Water System Master Plan and the 2006 update. Project alternatives are: 1) No action. 2) Regional alternatives which would involve neighboring communities for larger projects. 3) Optimum performance of existing facilities. The alternative selected for the Township's project is Optimum performance of existing facilities by constructing a water tower, loop dead-end water mains, replace undersize water mains and additional connection to DWSD. Director Knepper further reviewed a map showing the locations of the improvements as follows. In the northwest corner of the township looping of water mains and an additional connection to DWSD [Detroit Water Sewerage Department] would be made; along Tyler Road will be an extension of a water main from east of Township Hall to Beck Road which would loop two dead end water mains as well as give the Township a water main connection to the water tower; in the North Shore Drive, Denton and Stanley Roads replacement of water mains with larger water mains, looping dead ends and running a new water main under Belleville Lake; and a new water main along Bemis Road and looping of dead ends. The capital cost of the project alternative is water tower - \$4,982,000; meter pit and connection - \$683,000; Ecorse Road water main - \$1,068,000; Tyler Road water main - \$710,000; Bemis Road water main - \$3,116,000; water main crossing Belleville Lake - \$447,000; North Shore, Stanley, Denton Roads water main replacement - \$769,000 for a project total of \$11,775,000. Project financing for the DWRF project is a 20-year low interest loan. Existing funds and revenue from voted tax millage (expiring 2009) will be sufficient to make this project loan payments over the next 20 years. Anticipated social and environmental factors have been evaluated in the following areas: cultural resources, scenic rivers, climate, major surface waters, air quality, topography/geology, wetlands, soils, coastal zones, agricultural resources, floodplains, environmentally sensitive areas, and soil or groundwater contamination. The EPA has agreed with our conclusions that there are no environmental impacts. The DWRF does not allow for increases in capacity or development issues it can only be used for improvements to the existing system. Public comments will be accepted through April 15, 2008 and all comments will be turned in with the application to the state. Supervisor King recapped the improvements and guidelines to the project. Trustee Hart stated this is a good project and noted this will be the third water main line under Belleville Lake. Clerk Payne stated the additional connection to DWSD has been discussed for at least ten years. Trustee Clair stated the completion for the overall project is scheduled for 2010 and inquired what is the size of the replacement water mains. Director Knepper stated six inch water mains are being eliminated and the size of the replacement water main will depend on the area with a minimum of eight inch water mains and in most cases upgrading to twelve inch water mains. Trustee Rochowiak inquired if the residents along Bemis Road who currently have connections with Sumpter Township have to make change over to a connection to the Van Buren Township water main. Director Knepper stated yes, the residents along Bemis Road will be contacted by the Township. Supervisor King stated the improvements include the addition of approximately 22,780 feet of new water main, and replaces approximately 3,670 feet of existing water main; the installation of a new meter pit; and a 2 million gallon water tower.

Comments from the audience were as follows. A resident inquired about how this project will be funded and how would the water mains be laid. Director Knepper stated the funds to pay the loan will come from the 6 mills water and sewer debt levy in fund balance reserve along with the remaining two years of tax monies collected. Supervisor King stated when the millage was voted on the use of the monies was limited to capital projects. Director Knepper stated directional boring is being looked at for laying of the water mains. A resident stated the purpose of the first water and sewer levy was to bring the water and sewer system up to EPA standards and there was a renewal of the millage. The resident further stated these funds are currently being used to build the Equalization Basin and further inquired if the cost of maintenance for the water tower had been taken into consideration and how maintenance will be funded. Director Knepper stated yes the cost for the maintenance was considered and the initial first cycle of maintenance cost are included in this project. Supervisor King stated the anticipated reduction by controlling the peak water flows will help control the water rates. The resident inquired to the cost to repaint a water tower and has the type of water tower been decided. Director Knepper stated the cost is approximately \$150,000 to repaint a water tower and there has been no decision on the type of water tower, noting all types are being looked and the township is meeting with water tower companies to review different styles that can meet the capacity the township needs. Director Knepper further stated the decision will be made after the project plan is approved and a Resolution for the Board to adopt the project plan will come before the Board at the April 15, 2008 Board meeting. A resident inquired since the township has the monies in reserve why is the township getting a loan. Director Knepper stated the funds available are not large enough to make a lump sum payment and there are also other projects being paid for out of these monies.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Payne moved, Budd seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Hart moved, Clair seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on special land use request from Soave Landscaping to develop an outdoor landscape storage yard on a 5.006 acre site located on the east side of Beck Road south of Tyler Road, parcel number V125-83-062-99-0003-700. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Deputy Director Swallow. Deputy Director Swallow stated the applicant, Soave Landscaping, is proposing to develop an outdoor storage yard on approximately 5 acres of land located on the east side of Beck Road, south of Tyler Road. The site is zoned M-1, Light Industrial and is surrounded by M-1 zoning with the exception across the road is Willow Run Airport. The outdoor storage of building and contracting equipment and supplies is permitted in the M-1 district following special land use approval. The special land use was reviewed by the Planning Commission and at the June 14, 2006 Planning Commission meeting recommended the special use approval be granted by the Board of Trustees. Included in the Boards packet is a review by the Township's Planning Consultant McKenna Associates and the Township's Engineers Wade Trim. This is for storage only and not for retail sales. During Work Study the potential impacts of this project to Beck Road were discussed. Deputy Director Swallow stated he contacted the permit engineer at Wayne County who is reviewing this project and he stated the county is looking at the drainage in the area, particularly the ditch on the west side of Beck Road and the applicant will improve the ditch and drainage in that area. A memo dated April 1, 2008 from Deputy Director Swallow lists these conditions from Wayne County and are also subject to the conditions of the Planning Commission special land use recommendation of June 14, 2006, final site plan approval by the Planning Commission, and that the applicant complete any improvements to Beck Road and the Beck Road right-of-way recommended by the Wayne County Department of Public Services. A representative of the applicant stated he agreed with items on the memo. He further stated the use is only for Soave Landscaping projects with trucks coming in twice a day to pick up and drop off landscaping material and storage of landscaping equipment. Trustee Jahr inquired if any maintenance would be done to construction equipment. The representative stated no. Trustee Clair commented on which roads the trucks would be using to enter the site. Deputy Director Swallow stated this can be addressed as the project moves forward. Trustee Rochowiak inquired what time of the year would Soave Landscaping begin bringing these items to the site for storage. The representative stated

from April to November. Trustee Rochowiak stated he is concerned with the road conditions on Beck Road. The representative stated they understand and have a water management plan which should help preserve the road conditions. Trustee Hart stated the road condition is a concern noting this is a special land use and the Township could put a restriction of utilizing Tyler Road to enter the site project. The representative agreed to this restriction. Trustee Jahr shares the concern with the condition of the road and stated dust control was brought up by the Planning Commission. The plans submitted in the Board item are dated 2008 and the recommendations from the Planning Commission is from 2006 have there been any changes. Director Kelley stated only improvements have been made to the site plan. Deputy Director Swallow reviewed the minor changes to the project and stated the township engineers did review the site plan and this will go back to the Planning Commission for final site plan review. The representative also reviewed the improvements to the site plan noting these will help with the dust control. Trustee Rochowiak inquired the hours of operation due to the OSHA requirement of beeping noise from the equipment. The representative stated hours of operations are to be from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. approximately. Clerk Payne commented Wayne County should look at records from past years for the condition of Beck Road as the county makes their assessment.

The following were comments from the audience. A resident stated the debris of paper from Meijer's store is an example of concern of debris and also the OSHA required beeping is very annoying for residents and should be taken into consideration. Trustee Hart inquired about the rules on construction projects hours. Director Kelley stated the hours in the ordinance are dusk to dawn. Clerk Payne stated the zoning is light industrial for the site and there are higher impact uses that could go there without Board approval and inquired what some could be. Director Kelley stated industrial type commercial uses, such as storage, manufacturing, packaging, trucking, storage of contractor material, auto body repairs and all of the cases would use delivery trucks with the OSHA required noise. Further noting this is a seasonal operation with limited time of use during the day for loading. Treasurer Budd stated the Planning Commission was looking at the blowing of soil as far the dust control and this is why the cement walls are on the site plan. Director Kelley stated the Planning Commission did review the noise and the dust issues and there will be an irrigation system on the site to help control the dust and the Board could put a time limit on the equipment that have the OSHA required beeping.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

**MINUTES:** Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of March 17, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Clair moved, Hart seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2008 as presented. Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor King acknowledged new employee Police Officer Joseph Smith.

Wayne County Commissioner McNamara presented Supervisor King with the Woman's History Month award from the Wayne County Commission.

A resident sent an e-mail thanking the Department of Public Safety for their assistance in removing an abandoned vehicle parked in their subdivision.

The 2008 HUG (Help Unity Grow) will be held on April 19th at 8:00 a.m. at Belleville High School.

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) water main project will close Tyler Road between Belleville and Beck Roads within the next week or two. As more information becomes available it will be posted on the township website and cable channel.

Clerk Payne announced Van Buren Township is in receipt of a \$18,634 dividend check from the Michigan Municipal League. This funding represents a portion of the premiums that are returned back to Van Buren. The dividend funds returned to the community are due to efforts to reduce on the job injuries, Van Buren has received dividend checks for the past several years.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the special land use request from Soave Landscaping to develop an outdoor landscape storage yard on a 5.006 acre site located on the east side of Beck Road south of Tyler Road, parcel number V125-83-062-99-0003-700; subject to the conditions of the Planning Commission special land use recommendation of June 14, 2006, the final site plan approval by Planning Commission, and that the applicant complete any improvements to Beck Road and the Beck Road right-of-way recommended by the Wayne County Department of Public Services; and include Deputy Director Swallow's Memo of April 1, 2008 stating 1) project sponsor must clean and the ditch on the west side of Beck Road. The ditch must be improved to meet Wayne County design standards. 2) The on-site swale must be revised to meet the Wayne County Storm Water Management Ordinance. Noting on the site plan traffic flow ingress and egress from Tyler Road to this project which the applicant has agreed to and primary equipment that has OSHA requirements for beeping noise not be utilized until 6:30 a.m. Carried.

Jahr moved, Clair seconded to adopt Resolution 2008-13 the Investment Policy, as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve the bid for Riggs Heritage Park Construction Project (\$547,999) from Davenport Brothers Construction [and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute appropriate documents]. Carried.

Budd moved, Clair seconded to approve the contract with AmeraPlan to provide prescription reimbursement for the [six current AFSCME] retirees. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve authorizing the Supervisor to execute the application to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for termination of coverage under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System for Storm Water Discharges. Carried.

Clair moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 04-01-08(1) to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to Rezoning with Conditions. Carried.

\*(A synopsis of Ordinance 04-01-08 (1) follows the minutes. A complete copy may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 04-01-08(2) to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to Cell Tower Co-location, administrative approval. Carried.

\*(A synopsis of Ordinance 04-01-08 (2) follows the minutes. A complete copy may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve permit application PN 6213448 by AT&T in the North I-94 Service Drive, from the east side of Quirk Road, then west approximately 250 feet to a new AT&T telecommunication structure; to approve permit application PN 6213509 1034-08-2385 by AT&T in the westerly portion of the Belleville Road public right of way, from a point south of Ecorse Road and terminating near an existing telecommunication facility at 7530 Belleville Road; and to approve permit application PN 6213470 by AT&T in the southerly portion of the South I-94 Service Drive public right of way, from DeWitt Road to a point approximately 135 feet east of DeWitt Road to install telecommunications infrastructure. Carried.

**VOUCHER LIST:** Budd moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the April 1, 2008 voucher list as presented. Carried.

**REPORTS:** Supervisor King ordered the Environmental 2007 Annual Report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Payne announced as noted in the Lake Ledger the redistricting of the voting precincts is completed and has been approved by the State of Michigan. All registered voters in Van Buren Township will be receiving a new voter registration card. A correction to dates to remember in the Lake Ledger is last day to register for the November 4, 2008 General Election is October 6, 2008. If you have any questions contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8909.

Treasurer Budd announced the Drive Thru Dog Clinic will take place on Saturday, May

Continued on page 7

# OPINION

## Schools send a strong message

Central Middle School may have looked like a scene from south central Los Angeles last week.

Students were searched by police officers as they arrived at school, bomb-sniffing dogs prowled the hallways. Both were in response to a bomb threat scrawled on a boys' bathroom.

Fortunately, it all turned out to be for naught.

Still, it provides a strong message to district parents and students: this kind of stuff isn't acceptable anymore.

Call it what you will, but the district had no choice but to react this way. They and the Plymouth Police Department have no choice but to take the matter seriously, identify those responsible and hold them accountable.

In the end, this may have been intended as a harmless prank. It may be just an attempt by a troubled youngster to get some attention, or an ill-advised attempt to get a day off of school.

Schools should not handle these things the way they were handled 20 years ago. It saddens us to say it, but it's a different age now. The district has to act this way to send a strong message not only to the student or students who wrote the message, but to all those out there who may be thinking of doing something similar.

A quick, strong reaction is the most effective and appropriate action to take.

## Back to calculators

The Canton Township Board of Trustees will take another look at salaries for elected officials before they sign off on them.

The recommendation from a committee of two trustees, the clerk, finance director and executive director was to scale back all the salaries, but differed as to the amount of the reductions.

It makes sense to take another look at the recommendation, because there are a few problems with it.

The most notable is the recommendation for the salary of the supervisor. Currently at \$127,000, the recommendation was to lower it to \$108,000. There are probably few people who would argue that that's not decent money in this day and age, but it does bring up a problem in that there would be several department heads who earn more than the supervisor. With overtime and paid time out considerations, there are probably some police and fire personnel who would earn more, too.

This is always a slippery slope. It's always been our belief that just because one government figure is making too much money, everyone shouldn't be.

The reality is, though, that there is more direct responsibility—and accountability—in the role of the supervisor than any other in the township. If the salary is lowered too much, there's the potential to encounter the Belleville problem, where people willing to step up to the challenge might be scared off by what the job pays.

Besides, unlike some other positions in the township, the supervisor is one that you can't really turn off. People know who you are and listening to them and addressing their concerns is something that comes up 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Even Supervisor Tom Yack, who is retiring at the end of his term, agrees that the salary should be rolled back—he just disagrees with the amount. It makes sense to listen to him, too. He doesn't have any stake in the argument and he's spent more time in the position than anyone else in township history. He knows what the job is like and the commitment it requires.

The good news in all of this is that, no matter what, the elected officials in Canton Township will earn less next year. That's a step in the right direction and something taxpayers should be happy about.

## Way too little, too late

Last week, officials from Wayne County unveiled a new way to help businesses struggling because of the Sheldon Road underpass project.

To put it simply, they hope to use Internet traffic to develop vehicular traffic.

Their latest response to this fiasco was to put up a web site, [www.sheldon5mile.com](http://www.sheldon5mile.com), which ensures surfers that the businesses at Sheldon and Five Mile roads are open, even though Sheldon Road is not.

Surfers can browse the businesses, get specials, print out coupons—even get a map of how to get there without using the closed down roadway.

What you won't find, of course, is any

*It's nice to see that county officials recognize the plight of the business owners there.*

kind of timetable or schedule of the underpass project. That could be because nobody really knows how long it will take to finish.

First agreed to in 1999, the project was supposed to have a two-year timetable. If things had proceeded the way they were supposed to, we'd all be driving happily underneath the railroad tracks while trains rumbled overhead. A variety of things pushed it back, of course. Most were related to the complexity of the project. Anyone involved in construction will tell you that until you put a shovel into the ground, you don't really know what's beneath the surface.

There were other, 'political'

spirit of cooperation, shown much earlier in the process, would have sped things up a little.

As far as the web site goes, it's hard to guess how practical it will be. It will most likely fall under the category of that unwanted Christmas gift. It's the thought that counts. It follows the premise that people will want to seek out these businesses—those that don't have websites of their own—whereas they'll be most likely to just go a different way.

If county officials really want to help these businesses, they should be looking at granting some kind of tax break to them. Or they should get all their ducks in order and get the project finished.

WITH THE COUNTY'S NEW SHELDON RD. UNDERPASS WEBSITE, WE CAN EXPERIENCE ROAD-RAGE, GRIDLOCK AND "CRASHES" RIGHT HERE IN THE OFFICE!



## Working on the image problem

The Wayne-Westland Community School District hosted the annual Realtor's Luncheon last week at the William D. Ford Vocational Technical facility.

Rarely has a free lunch been so important.

Faced with funding issues, declining enrollment and increased competition from charter schools, the event came at a good time—and was aimed at the right audience. It took place at the right facility, too.

Most of the issues facing the Wayne-Westland school district are the same as those facing other districts. Funding is always a concern. Because of the lop-sided way the fiscal years fall, district officials are forced to do a lot of guesswork during their annual budget preparations. The uncertain nature of our state legislators—who promise one figure early during the school year and deliver a lower one later on after budgets are set—doesn't help matters either. The general state of the economy is a hindrance, too, because the state cannot—or will not—provide school districts with enough money to keep up with increases in their expenses. If they do, they have to take it from somewhere and that generally means cities and townships.

Declining enrollment is something other districts face as well. It's generally not because of anything they're responsible for; it's because people are losing their homes or moving out of the state in search of a brighter future.

These are state issues, but the district has faced another one, too: the image problem.

That's where the Realtor luncheons come into play. District officials are smart to reach out to this important group of people who are, literally, responsible for selling a community. To me, a community essentially

consists of three things: the neighborhoods, the downtown and the school district. Of those, the school district is the most important. When people are looking for a place to invest, they want to make sure that their children are well-educated, that they will have a better future, that they will have plenty of opportunities to learn to do whatever they want to—or go to the college of their choice.

The Wayne-Westland school district hasn't always had the best reputation, but the administration and board has met this challenge head on. The sinking fund millage has provided upgrades to virtually every building in the district—capped recently by top rate additions to the gymnasiums at both high schools. The facilities have never looked better. Now work will take place upgrading the media centers at the elementary schools, too.

One of my favorite features of the district, though, is the Voc-Tech center itself. This is a place where students can learn just about any skill—from photography to auto service and, of course, culinary arts—to prepare them for life after high school if college is not in their future. It's all about opportunities.

The responses I heard from the Realtors were all positive—and surprised. Most of the people at my table were from Plymouth and Canton, and they expressed an admiration for what they saw going on around them.

It was good to see and good to hear. And it's nice to know that district officials recognize the importance of the image of the school district, and they have every right to be proud.

## Reality comes close to home

It's easy to be oblivious to what's going on in the world.

Of course I've heard about the recession hitting the state, about jobs lost to other areas, about skyrocketing costs paired with flat-lining salaries, about citizens fleeing to other areas in search of work or savings, and, most of all, the mushrooming foreclosure rate. It would be hard to miss.

As I walked my dog this weekend through my decidedly blue-collar Westland neighborhood, however, I realized that 'knowing' something and really comprehending it can be very different. During that trip, I realized that the smattering of Realtor signs that have dotted a handful of lawns over the last several months had changed and at least one home already sported the dreaded sticker on the door.

The number of 'for sale' signs grew exponentially, in some areas on every third home, and in many cases they sported a grim addendum—"price reduced".

The homes could be for sale because the owner is moving to another area, remarried, passed away, or any of a myriad of other reasons.

Some aren't.

It's no secret that throughout the state people are coming to grips with the harsh reality that they could lose their home to foreclosure. The 'how's and 'why's of the situation have been discussed at

length in the media, but the 'now what'—understandable information about what the foreclosure process actually entails—has been harder to come by.

The City of Westland has taken steps to help, though, first through an April 2 foreclosure seminar and now through packets of information.

The packet includes tips on avoiding foreclosure for homeowners, with ideas before trouble starts, once things start to feel tight, and after the owner has already



Close to the Edge  
by Scott Spielman



Looking around  
by Meghan Chatham

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The Journal Newspapers are published Thursdays  
at 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan, 48184.  
Central office hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Phone 734-467-1900

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# Climate change forum planned

The Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) western campus will host a Climate Change forum from 6 until 7:30 p.m. on April 17.

This continuing education event, in partnership with the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), will feature ecologist Kathryn Savoie.

Savoie was trained by former Vice President Al Gore and his team of scientists and educators to present her version of Gore's presentation on the global warming crisis, documented in the film and book, *An Inconvenient Truth*. She has worked in the environmental field for more than 20 years and, is now the environmental program director at ACCESS, located in Dearborn. She was also one of 50 people chosen out of more than 1,000 applicants to attend the first training session, which took place in September 2006 in Nashville, according to school officials.

"Kathryn Savoie is an outstanding example of the millions of Americans who have been energized by the call to action on the climate crisis," said Gore. "We are so pleased that she has made a serious commitment to this challenge by coming to Nashville to become part of this unprecedented grassroots effort."

**Savoie was trained  
by former  
Vice President Al Gore  
and his team  
of scientists  
and educators...**

"Kathryn will be spending the next year making presentations in Detroit and around the State of Michigan discussing how individuals, businesses, schools and other organizations can be a major part of the solution to the growing crisis of global warming," he added.

Savoie completed her Ph.D. in ecology at the University of Michigan in 1990. In 1991, she attended the historic People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit in Washington DC, which inspired her to devote herself to working for environmental justice. She is also a founding member of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice.

Since 1994, Savoie has worked at ACCESS, where she directs community-based programs in environmental education, environmental health research and advocacy for environmental justice. Savoie has since given her presentation of climate change more than 60 times to audiences all over the State of Michigan.

She now lives in Detroit with her husband and 11-year old daughter. The event is free and open to the public.

week.

Copies of the telecast will also be available for checkout at the William P Faust Public Library of Westland beginning this week. The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren roads.

The information isn't a magic bullet that will instantly solve the problems residents are facing, but at least it gives families someplace to start as they try to hold onto their homes or at least find security for their futures.

## Send us your letters

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor.

Letters should be addressed to:

The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184.

All letters will be considered for publication and may be edited for content, space and length.

## In the Matter of: Winslow Drain

### NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

**Notice Is Herby Given** to you as a person liable for an assessment or a public corporation subject to assessment that the Board of Determination will meet on **Monday, April 21, 2008, at 5:30 P.M. at the Charter Township of Van Buren Municipal Center (Otisville/Sheldon Room), 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan 48111**, to hear all interested persons and evidence and to determine whether the **Winslow Drain (Drainage District No. W018)**, as prayed for in the Petition to clean out, relocate, widen, deepen, straighten, tile, extend or relocate, dated September 10, 2007, is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare, and whether said drain is necessary for the protection of the public health of the Township of Van Buren in accordance with Sections 72 and 191 of Act No. 40, P.A. 1956, as amended.

Proceedings conducted at this public hearing will be subject to the provision of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and you are further notified that information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the County Drain Commissioner. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Drain Commissioner at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting can be obtained by contacting the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Field Office, 3501 Henry Ruff Road, Westland, Michigan 48186.

**You Are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review in the Circuit Court for the County of Wayne within ten (10) days of the determination.

Kurt L. Heise  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner  
Director of Department of Environment  
415 Clifford, 7th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226-1515  
Telephone (734) 326-4500

Publish: April 10, 2008

## THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT

**Seeking Housing Rehabilitation Bids.** The Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, MI will receive bids for Housing Rehabilitation through the Community Development Block Grant Program on parcel number V125-83-056-01-0062-000 also known as 41687 McBride Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bid forms and work specifications are available at the Township Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, from 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. Bids will be received until 2:00 pm, April 23, 2008 and should be submitted to the Clerks office. The bids will be publicly opened at 2:00 pm April 23, 2008. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids and is not required to accept the low bid, is an equal opportunity employer. If you have any questions please contact Development Services, Pat at (734) 699-8913

Publish: April 10, 2008

Continued from page 5

10th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Water and Sewer Building.

The Recreation Department announced the following events: Open registration has begun for summer day camp. Four camps will be held, Tot Camp, Day Camp, Tween Camp and Club Teen. For information on classes and events contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC  
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King  
Supervisor

Publish: April 10, 2008

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 04-01-08(2) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 6-2-92, AS AMENDED, AND ADD CELL TOWER COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL.

First Reading of Ordinance 04-01-08(2). Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 to be held in the Board Room, in the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren; Section 18.09; CELL TOWER COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

### SECTION 1. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Section 4.31.	Application.	ADD
Section 4.31.D.	Application.	AMEND
Section 4.31.E.	Application.	AMEND
Section 4.31.F.	Application.	AMEND
Section 4.31.G.	Application.	AMEND
SECTION 2.	Conflicts	ADD
SECTION 3.	Severability	ADD
SECTION 4.	Effective Date	ADD

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

YEAS : King, Payne, Budd, Clair, Hart, Jahr and Rochowiak.

NAYS : None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC, Clerk  
Cindy C. King, Supervisor

Adopted:

Effective:

Publish: April 10, 2008

## Home

FROM PAGE 6

Individuals who have cable service through either WOW or Comcast could also see the taped seminar on the city cable station, WLND. The schedule had not yet been finalized on Monday, but residents can check the WLND schedule online at [www.city-ofwestland.com](http://www.city-ofwestland.com). The program is expected to begin airing this

## Send us your letters

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor.

Letters should be addressed to:

The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184.

All letters will be considered for publication and may be edited for content, space and length.

## In the Matter of: Winslow Drain

### NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

**Notice Is Herby Given** to you as a person liable for an assessment or a public corporation subject to assessment that the Board of Determination will meet on **Monday, April 21, 2008, at 5:30 P.M. at the Charter Township of Van Buren Municipal Center (Otisville/Sheldon Room), 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan 48111**, to hear all interested persons and evidence and to determine whether the **Winslow Drain (Drainage District No. W018)**, as prayed for in the Petition to clean out, relocate, widen, deepen, straighten, tile, extend or relocate, dated September 10, 2007, is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare, and whether said drain is necessary for the protection of the public health of the Township of Van Buren in accordance with Sections 72 and 191 of Act No. 40, P.A. 1956, as amended.

Proceedings conducted at this public hearing will be subject to the provision of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and you are further notified that information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the County Drain Commissioner. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Drain Commissioner at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting can be obtained by contacting the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Field Office, 3501 Henry Ruff Road, Westland, Michigan 48186.

**You Are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review in the Circuit Court for the County of Wayne within ten (10) days of the determination.

Kurt L. Heise  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner  
Director of Department of Environment  
415 Clifford, 7th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48226-1515  
Telephone (734) 326-4500

Publish: April 10, 2008

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 04-01-08(1)

### AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 6-2-92, AS AMENDED, OF THE REGULATIONS OF VAN BUREN TO ADD REZONING WITH CONDITIONS.

First Reading of Ordinance 04-01-08(1). Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 to be held in the Board Room, in the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren; Section 18.09; REZONING WITH CONDITIONS.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

### SECTION 1. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Section 18.09.	Rezoning with conditions.	ADD
Section 18.09.A.	Intent.	ADD
Section 18.09.B.	Definitions.	ADD
Section 18.09.C.	Authorization and Eligibility.	ADD
Section 18.09.D.	Application and Review Procedures.	ADD
Section 18.09.E.	Review Criteria.	ADD
Section 18.09.F.	Effect of Approval.	ADD
Section 18.09.G.	Compliance with Conditions.	ADD
Section 18.09.H.	Period of Approval.	ADD
Section 18.09.I.	Rezoning with Conditions Agreement Requirements.	ADD
Section 18.09.J.	Amendment of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.	ADD
Section 18.09.K.	Recordation of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.	ADD
Section 18.09.L.	Termination.	ADD
Section 18.09.M.	Township Right to Rezone.	ADD
Section 18.09.N.	Fee.	ADD

### SECTION 2. CONFLICTS.

### SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

### SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

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I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC, Clerk  
Cindy C. King, Supervisor

Adopted:

Effective:

Publish: April 10, 2008

# Smooth sailing

## Big crowds, smoother process predicted for passport fair

Scott Spielman  
Editor

The last time Northville Township Clerk Sue Hillebrand hosted a passport fair, she had to turn away more than 100 people.

Next week, she's hoping to serve more people with a more efficient service.

"We had a log jam last time because we only had one photographer," she said. "This time, we're working with Wayne County and we'll have four. It should be much better."

She said 380 residents from throughout western Wayne County took advantage of the service last September. It was successful enough to schedule another one, which will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northville Township Hall, which is at the corner of Six Mile and Sheldon roads. It is open to all Wayne County residents, not just township residents.

The Wayne County Clerk

*We had a log jam last time because we only had one photographer.*

*This time, we're working with Wayne County and we'll have four. It should be much better.*

opened a satellite office in township hall last year, too, and Hillebrand said that will help speed up the process. They'll have cameras designed particularly for passports—they're called passport cameras—which will eliminate a step, too.

"Last year we had to turn people away because we couldn't get the photos fast enough," she said. "We shouldn't have that problem this time."

Anyone who wants a passport will need a check or money order payable to the U.S. Department of State. The cost is \$75 for those 16 and older, \$60 for those 15 and

younger and \$75 for renewals. Residents can also get a passport card for \$20 or \$10. There is also a \$25 fee payable to Northville Township for the service and an additional \$10 fee if residents need to have a photo taken. Proof of American citizenship and a valid photo identification is needed, too.

Hillebrand said there will be more seating available this time, too. Last year, many people had to stand around and wait for the photo service.

"We're going to do a lot of things differently," she said. "You live and learn."



## Church to host African American reading event

Meghan Chatham  
Staff Writer

Books, according to Billy Hailes, pastor of Lutheran Church of Our Savior, books are the key to helping children understand the world in which they live. And for African-American children, learning about their heritage from books can make the world a better place.

The church will host the Second Annual African-American Read-In from 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 14 in an effort to reach out to the children of the community.

"It's one of the most exciting things, from my perspective, that we do in the course of the year," said Hailes. "One of the biggest components of my ministry is getting people to read."

Hailes, who describes his congregation as "about 96 percent African-American", said that the event focuses on books by or about African-Americans to make the tales even more culturally relevant to children in the community. Volunteers, including some area dignitaries, traditionally read to the children and then the children can pick out a book to take home to keep.

"The whole purpose is to get kids interested in reading," he said. "Books open up your world. They make the world a lot smaller."

Located at 29425 Annapolis Road, the church is located right on the border of Westland and Inkster—an area that Hailes said is very welcoming of opportunities to encourage children to strive for

success.

"I kind of feel like if these kids are reading about positive images they'll be inspired to do positive things," he said.

The focus on pushing children toward literacy is only part of the event, however. Hailes said that the read-in is also designed to offer children positive images to strive for in terms of stories about African-Americans who have overcome obstacles to accomplish great things and to offer students a chance to interact with successful African-Americans, he said.

"It's open to everybody," he said. "We don't exclude anybody. My view is everyone should know about each other's history."

About 36 children participated in the event last year, but Hailes said that his goal is to see that

number—and the number of children excited about reading—continue to increase.

"It's something that I hope and pray will grow 100 times over," he said.

Last year, the books distributed—two per child—were funded through a grant from the district arm of the church. Designed only as a start up fund, however, the church had to make alternative arrangements this year. Hailes said that the church has some books left over from last year; Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland) donated some books, and the church will probably have to find the money to purchase any other books necessary.

"We'll have age-appropriate books for all of them," he said. "They can actually choose a

book."

A reading list of other suggested literature will also be available to the children.

However, Hailes said that the church could still use some help.

"We'd love to have volunteers call," he said.

As an extension of the literacy campaign, the church is also in the process of setting up a lending library for the residents in the area. Donations of new or gently used books for adults and children—both fiction and non-fiction—are needed. Donations can be accepted between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment.

For more information or to volunteer for the read-in, contact the Lutheran Church of Our Savior at (734) 728-3440.

## CLASSIFIED

- 01. Obituaries
- 02. In Memoriam
- 03. Cards of Thanks
- 04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots
- 05. Personals/Announcements
- 06. Legal Notices
- 07. Attorneys
- 08. Entertainment
- 09. Lost & Found
- 10. Coming Events
- 30. Help Wanted

- 31. Help Wanted Sales
- 32. Help Wanted Drivers
- 33. Child Care
- 34. Specialized Services
- 35. Situations Wanted
- 40. Business Opportunity
- 42. Health and Fitness
- 43. Money to Loan
- 44. Music/Art Lessons
- 45. Adult Care
- 46. Private Schools/Instruction
- 47. Riding/Horses/Stables

- 50. Pets & Supplies
- 54. Rummage Sales
- 55. Estate Sales
- 56. Flea Markets
- 57. Antiques
- 58. Garage and Yard Sales
- 59. Auctions
- 60. Misc. Sales
- 61. Misc. Items
- 62. Building Supplies
- 63. Business and Office Equipment
- 64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
- 65. Tree Service
- 66. Landscape / Nurseries
- 67. Garden Plant / Supplies
- 68. Garden / Produce
- 70. Masonry / Brickwork
- 72. Cleaning Services
- 73. Musical Merchandise
- 74. Sporting Goods
- 75. Boats / Accessories
- 76. Remodeling & Renovations
- 77. Recreation Vehicles

- 78. Hunting / Fishing
- 82. Wanted to Buy
- 87. Room for Rent
- 88. Duplexes for Rent
- 89. Apartments for Rent
- 90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent
- 92. Business Places for Rent
- 93. Banquet Halls
- 94. Farm Land for Rent
- 95. Real Estate
- 96. Houses for Rent
- 97. Cottages for Rent
- 98. Mobile Homes for Rent
- 99. Flats for Rent
- 100. Will Share
- 101. Wanted to Rent
- 102. Storage
- 103. Business Property for Sale
- 104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
- 105. Mobile Homes for Sale
- 106. Houses for Sale
- 107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale
- 108. Lake and Resort
- 109. Income Property

- 110. Lots for Sale
- 111. Out of State Property
- 112. Commercial Lease
- 113. Real Estate Wanted
- 114. Auto Accessories
- 115. Autos for Sale
- 116. Antique & Classic Cars
- 117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
- 118. Freebies
- 119. Auto Repairs
- 120. Motorcycles
- 121. Autos Wanted

### 1. Obituaries

BURNS, D'Angelo Quantrelle Sr., age 36, died March 28, 2008. He was born November 8, 1971.

D'Angelo leaves to cherish his memory his loving mother, Patricia Alfred (John Jr.), father Arthur L. Hudgens Sr.

(Alyse); children, Taliea,

Teanna, D'Angelo and Takia

Burns; brothers, DelShawn

Burns (Edrika), John Alfred

III, A.J. Hudgens (Selena)

and Alexander Hudgens

(Tay); sisters, Latonya

Perdue, DelShawna

Hudgens (Keith) and Jessica

Hudgens; grandfather,

Robert Washington

(Theresa), and a host of

nieces, nephews, aunts,

uncles, cousins and friends.

Services were held at Pilgrim

Travelers Baptist Church,

Inkster, MI. Interment was at

Trinity Cemetery, Detroit, MI.

Final arrangements were

entrusted to Penn Funeral

Home, Inkster, MI.

BUTLER, William S., age 82, died March 26, 2008. He was born September 28, 1925. William will be remembered as a man who loved his family and showed it daily. Bill was married to Phyllis Butler for 33 years and was a faithful member of Gethsemane Baptist Church.

Daddy/Dad/Granddad/Papa was a hard worker who made many sacrifices for his family his entire life. With only a high school education, Uncle Bill/Mr. Butler was a remarkable teacher who shared his wisdom and knowledge with anyone who was smart enough to listen.

Whether known as Bill, Daddy, Dad, Granddad, Papa, Uncle Bill or Mr. Butler, this rare jewel will truly be missed. Services were held at Gethsemane Baptist Church, Westland, MI with Rev. Dr. John E. Duckworth officiating. Interment was at Mt. Hope memorial Gardens, Livonia, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

COATS, Patricia, A. March 26, 2008 age 67 of Wayne. Beloved wife of the late Jack (LeRoy). Dear mother of Shari (Gary) Good, Cheryl (J.P. Morgan) Coats and Jackie (John Fleischhacker)

Longman. Sister of Robert Kison. Grandmother of Jenny Coats, Joe Lamontagne, Matthew Dingman and Jeremy Longman. The family would appreciate any memorials be directed to Meals on Wheels, 30712 Michigan Ave., Westland, 48186.

HAY, Dorothy "Dot" M., age 83 of Romulus, passed March 27. Dear mother of Larry (Marian) Hay and Karen S. Gregory. Grandmother of 6, great grandmother of 13 and great-great grandmother of 4. She was preceded in passing by her husband, Hazen P. "Ping" Hay. Services were held at Community United Methodist Church, Romulus, MI with Rev. David K. Stewart (First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland) officiating. Entombment was at Michigan Memorial Park. Memorials may be directed to Community United Methodist Church. Final arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home, Romulus, MI with Rev. Dr. John E. Duckworth officiating. Interment was at Mt. Hope memorial Gardens, Livonia, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

LOUGHEED, Elizabeth "Betty" April 3, 2008 age 82 of Westland. Beloved wife of Elvin. Dear mother of Lawrence (Kathleen) Lougheed, Sheryl (Steven) Brown and the late Robert Allen Lougheed. Loving grandmother of Matthew (Heather) Lougheed, Debra (Phil) Tjernagel, Linda Brown and Tina Brown and great grandmother of Maya Lougheed and Brady Lougheed. Services were

held Monday April 7, 2008 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with Pastor Bob McDonald officiating. Burial was at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia. The family would appreciate memorial donations to Johns Hopkins - Ovarian Cancer Research. Please visit and post a note of condolence at www.uhtfh.com.

MARSHALL, Evelyn G., March 29, 2008 age 97, of Wayne. Beloved wife of the late Fred. Dear mother of Jerry (Joan), Fred (Willowdean), Richard (Patt) and the late Janet Novakovich. Services were held Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with Rev. Ron Vanderbeek officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Westland. Please visit and post a note of condolence at www.uhtfh.com

TABOR, Valdora R., 86 of Westland, passed away March 31, 2008. Valdora leaves to cherish her memory her children, Douglas (Diane), Ronald (Sheryle) and Norman (Mary Neil) Tabor. Sister of Pearl Krivoshine, Virden, Cleo, Dale and Bobby Bissett. She also leaves many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Valdora was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd, three brothers and three sisters. Interment was at Parkview Memorial Park, Livonia, MI. Services were held at and final arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home, Romulus, MI with Rev. Dr. John E. Duckworth officiating. Interment was at Mt. Hope memorial Gardens, Livonia, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

1939, and moved to Detroit shortly after graduation. She met and married Robert Phillips in November 1941. From that union she gave birth to five children. Three of her children preceded her in death. Dora's surviving children are Bobbie Bennett Phillips-Smith (Oscar) and Darryl Bernard Phillips (Earth). She had four grandsons, Michael Albert, Walter Eric, Vincent Paul and Ch'te Calief; nine great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Services were held at the Jehovah Kingdom Hall. Cremation rites were accorded. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

PHILLIPS, Dora, age 90, died March 26, 2008. She was born February 14, 1918. On February 14, 1918, Dora Thompson Phillips was born to Emmett Thompson and Leona Page-Thompson. She was the youngest of four children. Dora was born in Amory, MS. She graduated from Monroe County training school in

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PHILLIPS, D

**31. Sales Help Wanted**

ACCOUNT  
REPRESENTATIVES  
NEEDED  
The Journal Newspapers has immediate openings for sales representatives to serve our circulation area. Candidates must have reliable transportation and a willing attitude. Base plus commission. Newspaper or media sales experience preferred, but will train the right candidate.  
Please send resume detailing experience and availability to:

Susan Willett  
Journal Newspaper Group  
P.O. Box 339  
Wayne, MI 48184

**34. Specialized Services**

In-Home care for elderly. Transportation for shopping, Dr. appts., etc. Executive references available 248-305-8026

**40. Business Opportunity**

Earn up to \$3500 in first month Work your business from home by phone, internet and our leads. First year up to \$93,936 www.tryequest.com/kemp 800-318-2973

Looking for more business referrals? The Masters of Opportunity chapter of BNI meets every Friday from 7am to 8:30am at the Wayne Tree Manor. Visitors are welcome. Call Trish at: 734-890-1250

ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-888-744-4651.

**42. Health and Fitness**

NEED MEDICAL SUPPLIES?? Free medical supplies and equipment for your use. Walkers, canes, wheelchairs, crutches, to name just a few.

DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH???

Donate your supplies outright to the "Medical Supply Sharing Ministry."

Whether you need supplies, or have supplies to donate, or have questions about the program, call Cathy at: 734-699-5565

**58. Garage and Yard Sales**

SS Simon & Jude Catholic Church  
32500 Palmer Rd.  
Westland, MI  
Friday Apr. 11, 2008  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
\$2 Bag Sale at 4:00PM  
All large items go for \$2 at the bag sale.  
Call 734-722-8209 for additional info.

**59. Auctions**

Notice is hereby given that on 4/23/08 at 1:00 p.m. the following will be sold by competitive bidding at: Stor-N-Lock Self Storage 7840 N. Wayne Rd. Westland, MI 48185

Unit #N1C-Johnie Ingram: Household items, misc. goods; Unit #P14-James R. Wasczenski: Recreational items, misc. goods; Unit #F22-Matthew D. Balabon: Household items, recreational items, misc. goods; Unit #C5-Gerri Kuck: Recreational items, misc. goods; Unit #J25-Kevin McGriff: Household items, recreational items, misc. goods; Unit #L23-Leeann Gale: Household items, misc. goods.

Notice is hereby given that on 4/23/08 at 3:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at The Storroom Self Storage 40600 Michigan Ave Canton, MI

Space #327-Christina Haley: Household goods, misc. goods; Space #415-Donna Bonds: Household goods; Space #507-Crystal Webb: Household goods, misc. goods; Space #629-Nancy Ann Thorton: Household goods, misc. goods; Space #1008B-Wanna Johnson: Misc. goods

Notice of Public Sale. On April 22, 2008 at 1:00 PM U-Store-It 401 28266 Ecorse Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

will sell the following units to the highest bidder by Cash. U-Store-It reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. All items in storage units contain household items unless otherwise mentioned:

Unit C1-Dawn Rojas, Unit C25-Ed Musico, Unit D25-John Proctor, Unit D42-James P. Bensmiller, Unit D45-James P. Bensmiller.

**SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE**  
**NOW IS THE TIME TO START PLANNING THAT GARAGE SALE**  
**CALL 734-467-1900 TO PLACE YOUR AD**

**61. Misc. Items**

**\$100 QUEEN PLUSH PILLOWTOP**  
2-piece Mattress & Box Set  
NEW in Plastic Can Deliver KING \$1575 734-326-2744

New 5-Piece Contemporary Dinette Set w/smoked glass Must Sell! \$150 734-637-2012

**NEW 5 Pc. Cherry or Oak Bedroom Suite.**

All brand NEW in boxes. Headboard (Full-Queen), Night Stand, Chest, Dresser and Landscape Mirror.

\$395.00 Delivery Available. (734) 721-3799

**FISH FOR STOCKING**  
MOST VARIETIES PONDS-LAKES

**LAGG'S FISH FARM**  
269-628-2056 Days 269-624-6215 Evenings

**FISH FOR SPRING STOCKING**

- Algae and weed control, aeration systems, windmill aerators, pond consultation, equipment installation. FREE CATALOG. Harrietta Hills Trout Farm.

1-877-389-2514 www.harriettahills.com

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**PIONEER POLE BLDGS.**  
30x40x10', \$8,990.00.

12x10' All Metal Slider, 36" Entrance, 12 Colors, 2x6 Trusses, Material And Labor, Free Quotes, #1 Company In Michigan 1-800-292-0679

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,990.00 Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood Portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwoodsawmills.com/300N

Free information: 1-800-578-1363 ext. 300-N

**87. Rooms For Rent**

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, Cable TV. Call 734-721-1220 Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100 Fairlane in Novi 248-347-9999 Days Inn/Sunrise Motel 734-427-1300

**BELLEVILLE**  
Furnished, utilities and refrigerator included. \$80 week 734-699-3232

**CANTON DAYS INN**  
Low Daily, Weekly, and Monthly rates. Group & Corp. Rates Data ports, Nintendo and In-room movies

Meeting room for up to 35 people

Free deluxe breakfast Guest Laundry Microfridge in all rooms All local calls free

Free High speed wireless internet.

Coffee makers in all rooms. 40500 Michigan Ave. Exit 22 off I-275 734-721-5200 www.daysincanton.com

Nice & Clean College Dorm Style - \$65 to \$125 per week. Electricity & Gas incl. Washer & Dryer.

Satellite TV. On Michigan Ave between Merriman and Henry Ruff. Private Entrance.

Call: 734-777-3232 Ask for Dan

**121. Autos Wanted****JUNK CARS WANTED**  
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RADIATORS AIR CONDITIONING BODY PARTS AUTO GLASS USED WHEELS BRAKE PARTS FENDERS HOOD

# THE SCENE

## Formulaic, but fun Leatherheads is solid entry in the sports film genre

Everything new is old again. George Clooney's latest effort, *Leatherheads*, borrows on some time-honored Hollywood clichés and banks on star power, but it succeeds nonetheless.

Clooney both directs and stars in the film, which is set in 1925 but follows a theme from the current professional sports world: money has ruined the game.

Clooney is Jimmy "Dodge" Connolly, a likeable veteran on the Duluth Bulldogs, a not-quite professional football team. He also ensures the team gets good press because he basically writes all the stories about them, by dictating the words to 'Suds' (Stephen Root), who writes for the Duluth Democrat. It's pretty easy to see where he got his name, too.

But times are tough in 1925, too, and the team is facing financial ruin. That's when Connolly hatches a scheme to recruit Carter "The Bullet" Rutherford (John Krasinski of television's *The Office*). Rutherford was a football standout at Princeton and has the added advantage of being a war hero. Soon the team is selling out every game.

But there's trouble brewing when a competing newspaper assigns a reporter, Lexie Littleton (Renée Zellweger), to look into the team. She starts to discover that Rutherford's war record is a bit exaggerated. She also develops an affection for both Connolly and Rutherford, and it soon becomes anyone's guess who will wind up with the girl.

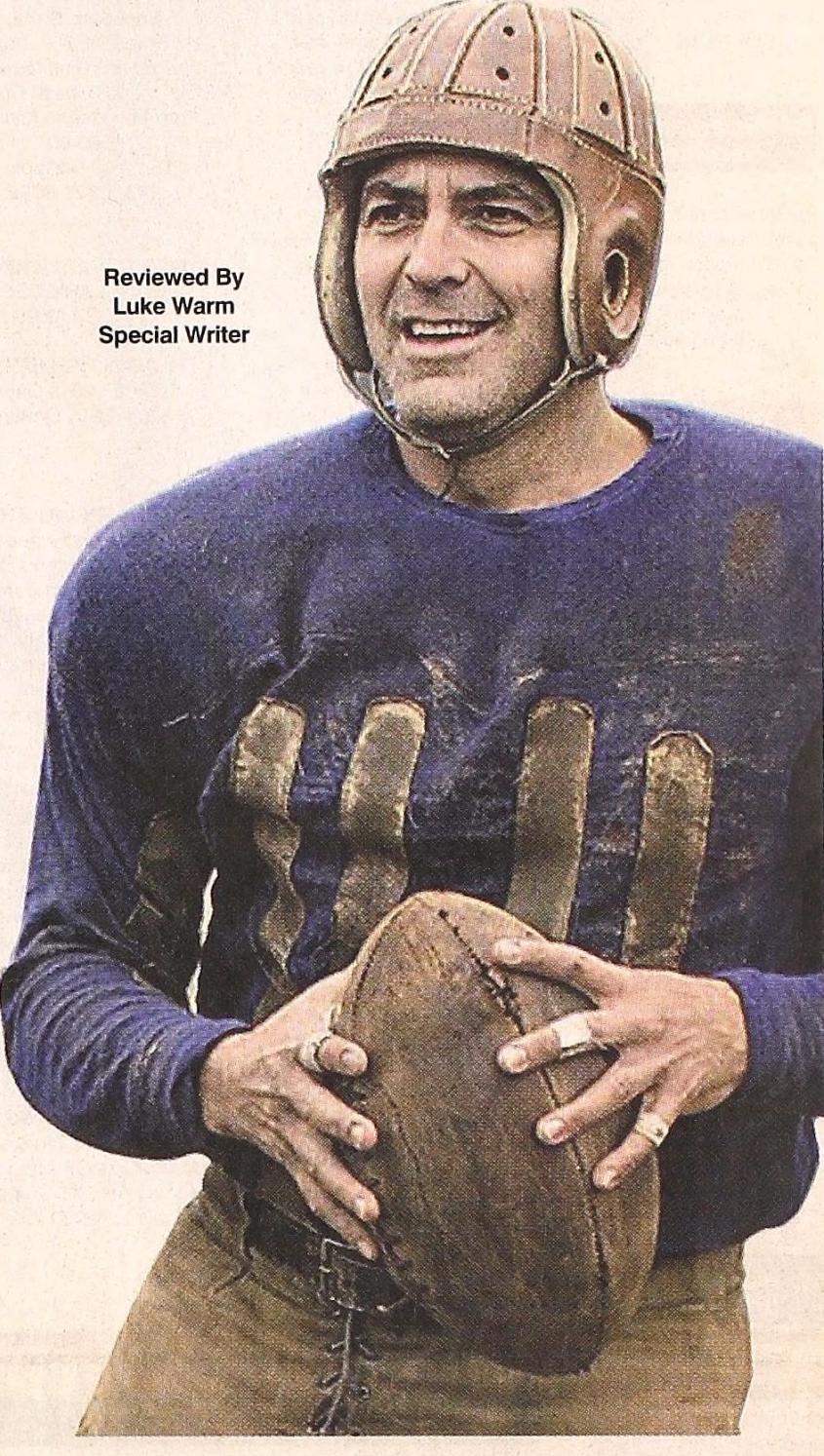
The script hits a few bumps

along the way, but there are some genuine laughs sprinkled throughout the movie. Clooney and Zellweger are good as always, and Krasinski manages the trip from the small screen to the silver screen well.

*Leatherheads* is the third directorial effort from Clooney and it's drastically different from his first two: *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*; a political drama set in the 1950s, and *Good Night, and Good Luck*. He shows he is just as capable with a romantic comedy, though. No doubt he has picked up some tips from the Coen brothers, with whom he worked on *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*

You shouldn't expect anything overly complicated with this film, though, just a good time and a few good laughs.

Reviewed By  
Luke Warm  
Special Writer



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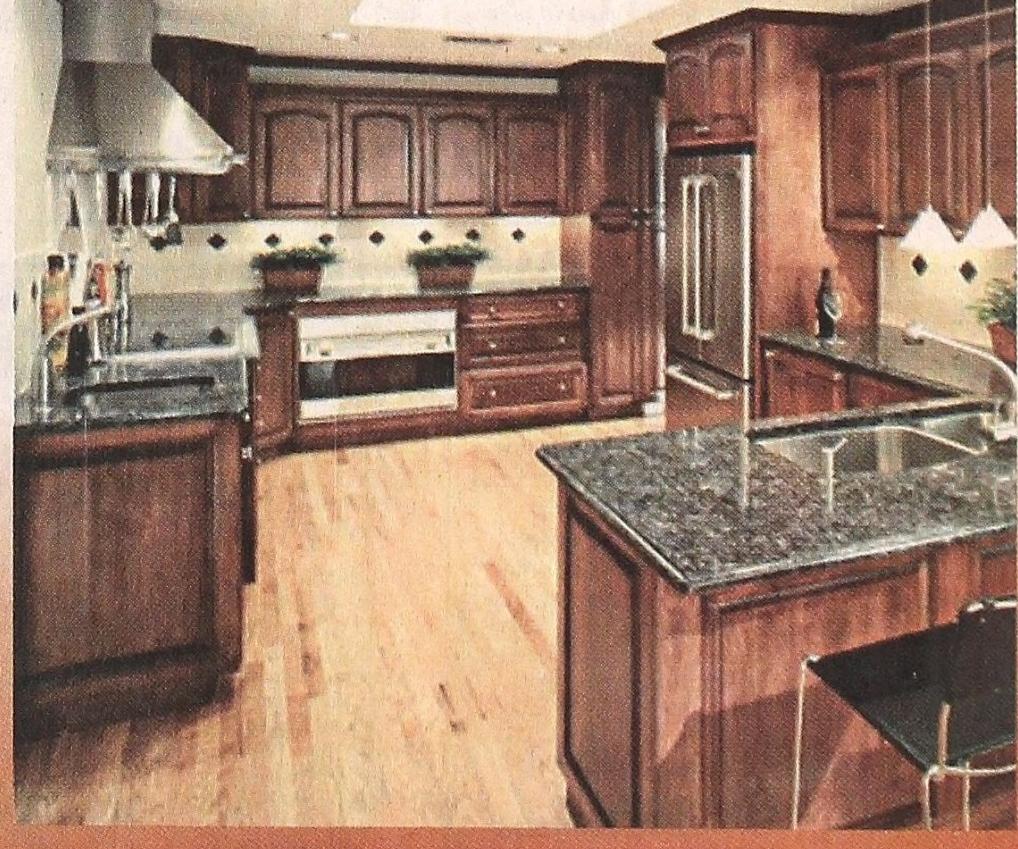


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# SPORTS

## Belleville Tigers split doubleheader

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

Belleville Softball Coach Peggy Curtis would rather lose sooner than later, but unfortunately for Belleville, sooner was during the team's home and season opener on Thursday.

Curtis didn't want to start her 30th year of coaching with a loss, but there was no avoiding it when visiting New Boston strung together six hits—while her bats remained quiet—to overtake the Lady Tigers, 5-2, in the first game of a non-league doubleheader.

Curtis said it was the first time this season the team set foot on their own field due to the long winter and soggy field conditions. She added that she was still figuring out which players fit best at what positions as the day went on.

"We did some switching around and now have a good idea of who to play where," she said. "This was the

first time we played outside and it's so much different hitting outside than it is inside. If we're going to lose, it's better to do it now before league play starts."

Belleville rebounded in the second and produced a 6-2 victory to start the season, 1-1.

In the first game, Belleville took a 1-0 lead when senior catcher Danielle Stabnau nailed a triple that drove in junior Samantha Cole.

New Boston countered with a four-run sixth inning and one run in the seventh.

Belleville scored its second run in the seventh. Stabnau got on base with a triple and was knocked home on junior Casey Porzondek's triple.

Stabnau was 2-for-2 and Porzondek went 3-for-4. Senior Wendy Morton accounted for Belleville's only other hit.

Cole pitched a 10-strikeout game.

See Softball, page 12



Despite Samantha Cole's 10 strikeouts, Belleville lost its first game of a doubleheader against New Boston, 5-2. Cole earned the win in the second game, 6-2.

## Ignition capture regular season title

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

The Detroit Ignition won the Major Indoor Soccer League regular-season title with a 22-21 victory over host Baltimore on Saturday.

The victory gives the Ignition the top seed going into the 2008 MISL Championship Series, which kicks off this weekend. Detroit will move directly into the semifinal round of the playoffs. Game 2 will take place on Sunday, April 20 at Compuware Arena.

Nine different players scored in the outing. Jamar Beasley and Ricardinho each scored twice for Detroit.

Mike Apple and captain Dromo Callahan scored in the first quarter. Ricardinho and Beasley both scored in the second to bring the Ignition back from an 11-4 deficit. The teams went into the intermission with the Blast leading, 11-8.

Ignition kept the momentum going in the second half with goals by Ze Roberto, Jonathan Greenfield and Ryan Mack. The eight-point rush gave the Ignition their second lead of the night, 14-

13. Baltimore responded and took the edge, 15-14, headed into the final quarter.

Ignition rookie Zach Wilkes scored his first goal of the season and Nate Craft and Beasley scored to give Detroit a 20-19 advantage.

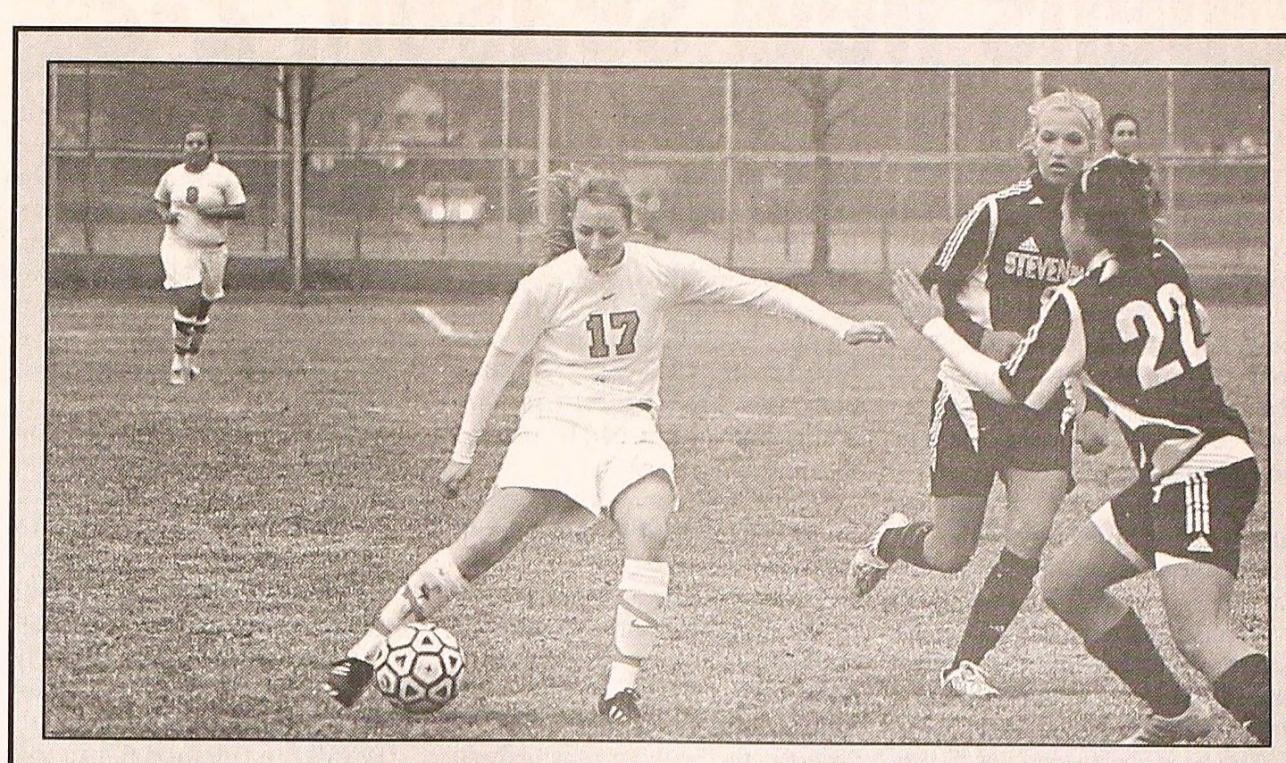
Mike Lookingland gave the Blast a one-goal lead again when he scored in the waning minutes. That prompted the Ignition to take out their goalie, Danny Waltman, out for a sixth attacker—Callahan.

The extra man helped as Ricardinho scored the winner with less than a minute to go. The Blast had one final shot with less than a second on the board but Callahan made the block in front of the Ignition's open net.

For Detroit to have a chance at the regular-season crown, the Ignition needed to beat visiting league leader Milwaukee on Friday night.

They did so by a score of 18-11.

Hewerton Moreira led the team with eight points in the outing. Ryan Mack scored twice and Nate Craft, Doug Rice and Beasley each scored single goals in the team's final regular season game.



## Canton topples Stevenson

The Canton Lady Chiefs improved to 1-1 when they shutout a visiting Livonia Stevenson, 3-0, Friday. Junior forward Tracey Rymph got things going for Canton when she out raced Stevenson defenders and booted one past the goalkeeper. Canton carried the 1-0 advantage into the intermission. Junior Forward Megan Staub (above) scored two goals in the second half to put the game away. Senior goalkeeper Bryanne Bellovary notched the shutout. The victory was fresh off a 1-0 loss to powerhouse Novi last Wednesday. The Wildcats won on a penalty kick. Canton is at Northville at 7 p.m. on Monday and host Plymouth at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.



## Mustangs roll Rocks, tie Chargers

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

After posting two shutouts to start the 2008 season, the Northville Lady Mustangs soccer squad faced their first test Monday night.

They faced off against crossover rival Churchill on their home turf and walked away with a 3-3 tie.

"A tie is like kissing your sister," said Northville Coach Ron Meteyer. "It's a kiss but nobody enjoys it. When going down the line shaking hands at the end of the game I tried to look into the girls' eyes and I could tell nobody was real happy about it."

Meteyer said he warned his players that they would have better opportunities to score with shots closer to the goal. They ignored the advice.

The game started out good for the Lady Mustangs when Theresa Yankovich drilled a 28-yarder into Churchill's net about 5:30 into the game. With about 18 minutes remaining in the half, junior defender Jeanette Dolmetsch fired one from 35 yards out to put Northville up, 2-0.

About seven minutes later, Churchill's Kayla Johnston headed one past Northville goalkeeper, Elana Ryznar. The half ended in favor of Northville, 2-1.

Johnston knotted things up at two when she knocked in a 20-footer. She gave the Chargers the lead when she blasted one past Ryznar from 35-yards out.

Senior Sarah Stern laid in another long penalty shot in the upper left corner with 10:36 left in the game.

"I knew it would be a tough game, maybe a one-goal game," Meteyer said. "I never expected us to have to come from behind to tie."

Northville had an easier time last week, when they scored 10 goals and allowed none to win their first two games.

Stern opened the season with a hat trick, scoring the team's first three goals of the season in a 6-0 victory over the Salem Lady

Rocks.

She put Salem on its heels when she scored in the first two minutes of the game. She added another with about 19:14 left to play in the half and struck again about two minutes later to put the Lady Stangs up 3-0.

Junior Amy Sweetapple scored with about 8:14 left to play in the half and junior Jill Alumbaugh made it a 5-0 game at the end of the first 40 minutes of play.

"I think we sent a strong message in the first half," said Meteyer. "We slowed things down in the second half and sat Stern and (Theresa) Yankovich in the second."

Just minutes after reinstating the sure-footed players the line scored again. Sweetapple, from Yankovich and Stern, scored with about 21:00 left to play to put the game away, 6-0.

The defense proved to be just as tough as the offense. Northville defenders only allowed two shots

on net.

Part of that was due to the stellar play of junior Kelsey Baskins and sophomore Caroline Castelli.

"The defense was big question mark coming into the season," Meteyer said. "It held up pretty good and what shots got through were easily stopped by our keepers."

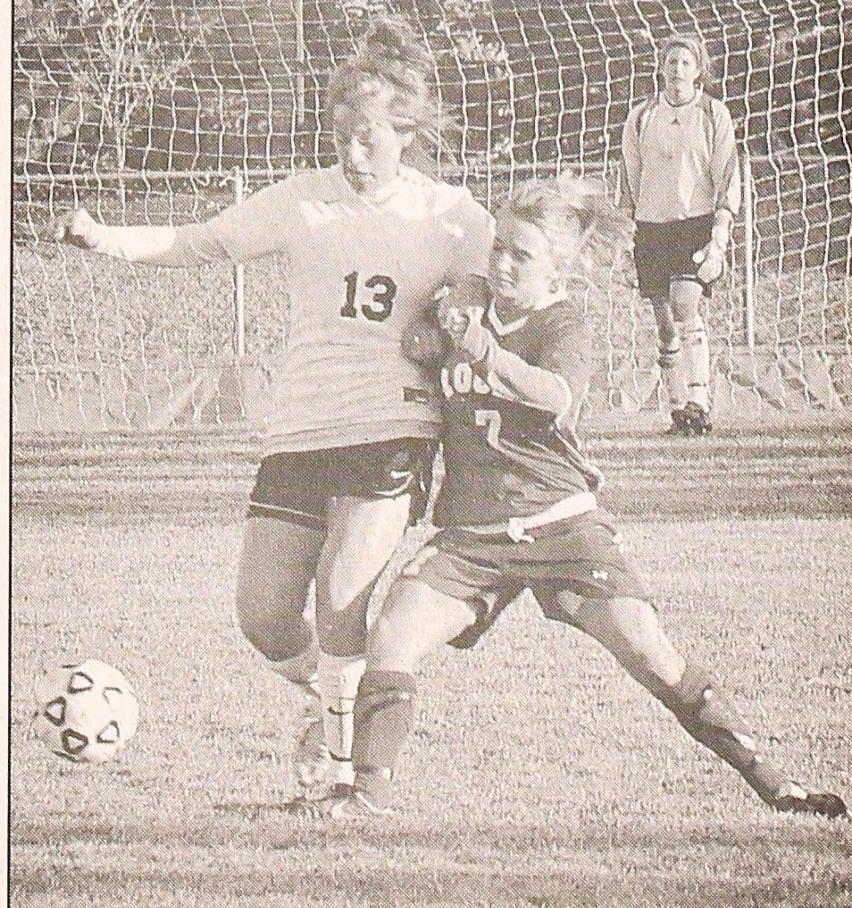
Sophomore net-minders Elana Rysner and Katherine Jansen each played a half in the victory.

Jansen stopped both shots on net in the 4-0 victory against host South Lyon on Friday.

Alumbaugh put Northville on the board off of Yankovich's corner kick in the first half. Sophomore Lauren Lokey made it a 2-0 game when, after taking on two attackers herself, she pick-pocketed the third and took it the distance to score. Northville carried a 2-0 lead into the halftime break.

Yankovich fired a left-footer in

See Soccer, page 13



Northville senior Anne Tasse (left) works against Salem's Katie Shull Last week. Northville won the game, 6-0. Photo by Ken Garner

**SPORTS**

# Belleville Tiger baseball opens new season, 2-2

**Jeff Novak**  
Staff Writer

Belleville hitters put things into motion last week and ended up with a 2-2 record to start the season.

The Tigers earned a win against neighboring Romulus; suffered a loss to non-league competitor Wayne; and split a doubleheader against Livonia Franklin—another non-league opponent.

Belleville and Farmington scored a combined 53 runs in the doubleheader on Saturday in Livonia.

The Patriots came out on top, 14-4, in the first meeting. Sophomore newcomer Chris Primeau was on the mound for Belleville.

The heavy bats came out to play for Belleville in the second game. The Tigers scored 19 times to win the game by three runs.

Returning junior Kaare Cigan pitched the first six innings. Returning senior Andrew Overholt finished out the seventh and eighth frames for the win.

Overholt had a huge double that drove in two runs. He eventually scored to help separate Belleville from Franklin. Junior newcomer Caleb Kennedy had two big hits for the Tigers, too.

"The bats just came alive that game," said Belleville Coach Dave Stamper.

Overholt, a senior, and Cigan, a junior, are two of five core players

returning this season.

Overholt plays third base when he's not pitching. He made some big plays there in the second game of the doubleheader, according to Stamper. He's huge on the mound and at the plate for the Tigers, too. Against Romulus, he hit two doubles in the 5-3 victory. He also helped the Tigers stay close in the 4-3 nine-inning loss when he pitched the final four frames.

Wayne, with runners on first and third, won the contest when they hit a blooper over first base.

Cigan is steady at first and solid at the plate. He had two doubles against Romulus, according to Stamper, to help Belleville to a 5-0 lead. Romulus made a run at the Tigers in the final inning with three runs but the Tigers held them off. Cigan pitched the first six innings of the high-scoring doubleheader.

Stamper has senior Jason Johnston back in the outfield and junior Josh Robaliewicz returning as an infielder and pitcher. Senior Jerry Taylor is a returnee but wasn't a starter last year. When not behind the plate as catcher he pitches.

Other seniors include Steve Davenport in the outfield and Kyle Kortier as a utility player.

Kennedy is another one of Stamper's weapons on the mound. He pitched five innings against Romulus and racked up nine strikeouts. He's an infielder when not on the hill.

Anthony White, another junior that's new to the squad, relieved Kennedy in the Romulus game for the last two innings. He also plays infield when not throwing. Greg Pfeiffer is a junior infielder and junior Zack Whitehouse is an infielder and pitcher. Junior Steve Towler rounds out the outfield prospects.

Primeau, the youngest player on the team as a sophomore, helps in the infield when not pitching.

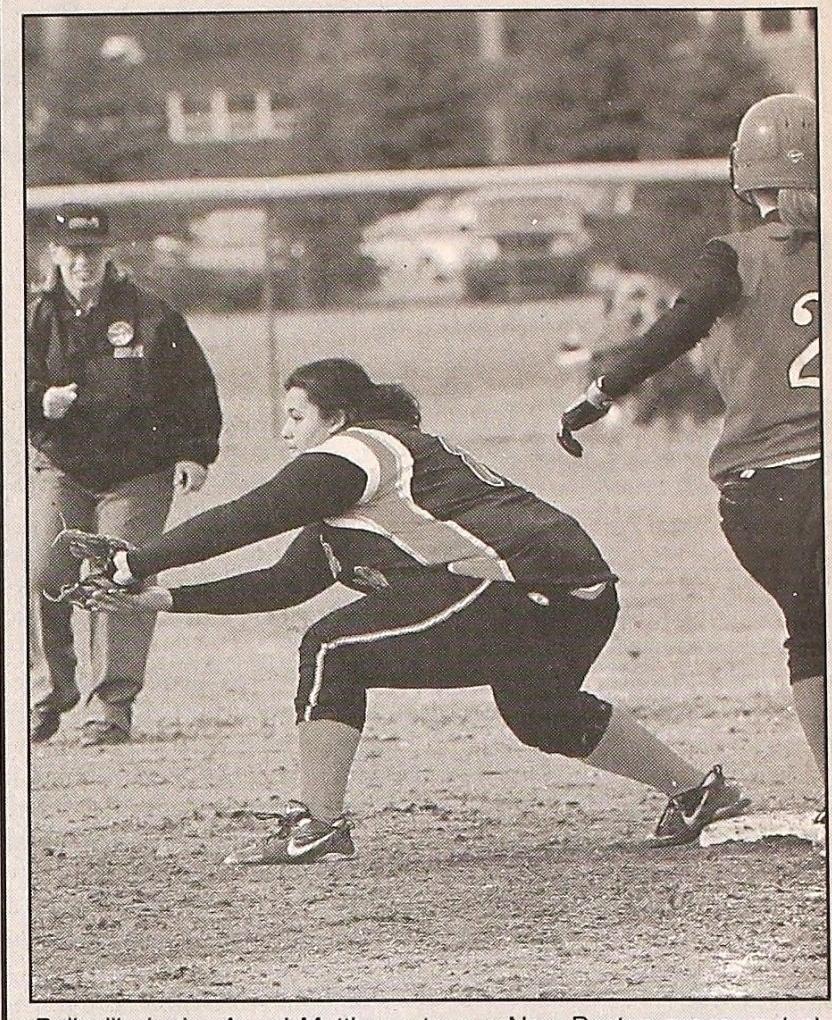
The deep bullpen comes in handy for Stamper.

"We have about seven or eight pitchers on the roster," he said. "That's a good thing especially when you have four games back-to-back like we did last week."

Belleville finished 6-4 in the tough Mega Red conference last season and opened league play on the road against the always-tough Monroe on Monday and hosted Kennedy on Wednesday (results were unavailable at press time).

Belleville plays at the University of Michigan's Fisher Stadium in a doubleheader against Lincoln, starting at 4 p.m. on Friday. Then they head to Trenton at 4 p.m. on Monday and host Southgate at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

"We hope to do well in the Mega Red and in the districts this year," Stamper said. "We have to come together as a team and play good defense and put the ball into play—that will be the key to the season."



Belleville junior Angel Matthews tags a New Boston runner out at first last Thursday.

## Softball

FROM PAGE 11

New Boston added one run in the sixth, but the Tigers put things out of reach with three more runs at the bottom of the frame.

Without a backup pitcher available, Cole threw for a second consecutive game. She struck out six batters and walked two in the second game. She was also 2-for-4 with a triple and two RBIs. Morton was 2-for-3 at bat with an RBI.

Belleville is at Trenton at 4 p.m. on Monday and hosts Kennedy at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD MARCH 10, 2008 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro Tem William Wadsworth

Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, Harry Crout, William Crova, William Wadsworth.

Excused: LeRoy Burcroff, Randolph Gear.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor  
Linda R. Choate, Clerk  
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-062**

2. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held March 3, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-063**

3A. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to concur with the Environmental Protection Board (EPA) and approve application EPB080001, for Alternegy, LLC-Future Biodiesel Facility, located at 29,120 Wick Road, proposed 30 million gallon per year Biodiesel production facility with the following conditions: the application be denied if MDEQ denies any one of the environmental permits for which the applicant has applied, the City receive copies of the petitioners SWAPP, SPCC and PIPP plans.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-064**

3B1. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova to concur with the Romulus Police Department and approve the request from Meristar Hospitality Operating Partnership, L.P. (a Delaware Limited Partnership, 1010 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20007, of all membership interest in 2006 Resort B-Hotel licensed business at 8600 Wickham Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174 by dropping Capstar management Co., and transfer 99 percent interest to Meristar Hospitality Operating Partnership and transfer 1 percent interest from Equistar Acquisition Corp., to Meristar Acquisition Company.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-065**

3B2. Motion by Wadsworth supported by Crova to concur with the Romulus Police Department and approve the request of Romulus Suites Limited Partnership to transfer ownership of a 2006 B-Hotel licensed business with official food permit and outdoor service at 8600 Wickham, from Meristar Sub 7E, LLC Romulus suites Limited Partnership.

**08-066**

4A. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crova to ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Romulus and Teamsters Local 214, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2010, authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute same.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-067**

4B. Motion by Crout, supported Barden to adopt a resolution of recognition and appreciation of Doctor John Herman, DVM, who oversees Romulus Annual Dog and Cat Day, donating the proceeds to the new animal shelter.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-068**

5A. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to concur with Lynn Conway, Purchasing

Coordinator, and Thomas Wilson, DPW Director to authorize the City of Romulus to enter into a service agreement with BidNet, allowing the City's RFBS (request for bids) and RFPs (request for proposals) be distributed to all vendors that are BidNet participating Organizations, at no cost to the City of Romulus

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-069**

5B. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to concur with Lynn Conway, Purchasing Coordinator and Thomas Wilson, DPW Director, to adopt the resolution dated February 7, 2008, from the Downriver Community Conference Board of Directors (DCC) to authorize and facilitate collaborative procurement of commodities by joint cooperation of its member is Department of Public Works and Public Services.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-070**

5C. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to concur with Derrick Schueller, Assistant DPW Director, legal counsel, and at the request of Wayne county, to adopt the resolution to accept long term maintenance of Storm Water management Systems and to authorize Thomas M. Wilson, Director of Public Works and Derrick Schueller, Assistant Director of Public Works the ability to enter into and execute long-term maintenance agreements on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-071**

5D. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Thomas Wilson, DPW Director and designate Saturday may 10 through Saturday may 17, 2008, as Spring Clean Up week, including free dumping of non-hazardous trash at the DPW for Romulus residents Monday, May 12, 2008 through Saturday may 17, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-072**

6A1. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to schedule a Study Session to discuss Retiree's Healthcare on March 24, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in the City Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-073**

6A2. Motion by Crova, supported by Crout to approve second reading and final adoption of Chapter 20, Article VI, Offenses against Public Morals Ordinance Amendment, introduced at the meeting held March 3, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-074**

11. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to authorize the Treasurer of the City of Romulus to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 08-05 in the amount of Six Hundred Forty Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred, Twenty Seven Dollars and Ten Cents (\$647,727.10).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

**08-075**

12. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, Clerk  
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on March 10, 2008.

Linda . Choate, Clerk  
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: April 10, 2008

**SPORTS**

# Whalers close out season with awards banquet

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers' season ended more than a week ago in a sweep by Kitchener but it officially concluded last Monday at the team's annual award banquet at Ginopolis on the Ice Restaurant at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

The following players received awards:

**Chris Terry**  
Regular Season Most Valuable Player, and Leading Scorer

As a draft choice of the National Hockey League's Carolina Hurricanes, Chris Terry led the Whalers with 44 goals and 57 assists for 101 points and was +12 in 68 games. He led the Whalers in the playoffs with four goals and three assists for seven points in four playoff games to earn Playoff Leading Scorer and Most Valuable Player honors. The Whaler Booster Club also named him Player of the Year. Terry is currently playing with Albany of the American Hockey League.

**Brett Bellemore**  
Defenseman of the Year

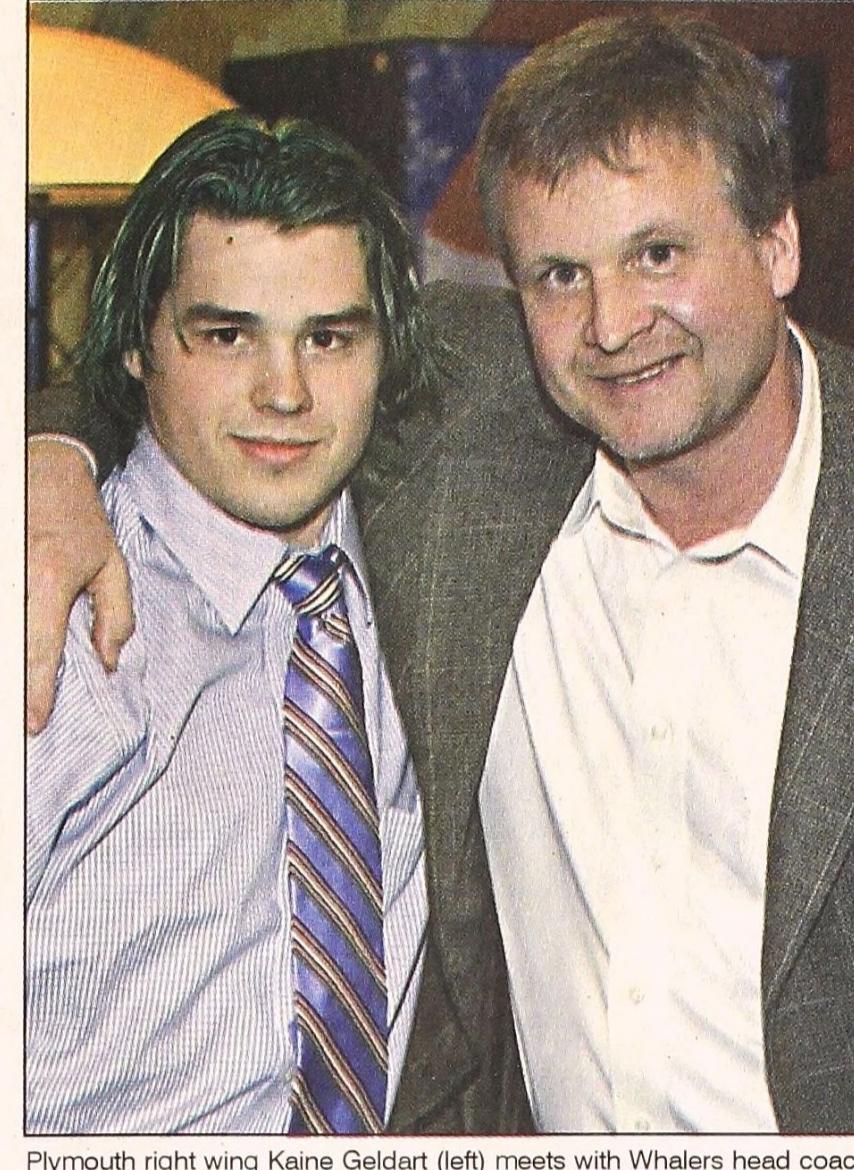
Brett Bellemore, a veteran defenseman and Carolina Hurricanes draft who was often paired against the top lines in the OHL, scored six goals with 18 assists for 24 points this season. Bellemore is currently playing with Albany of the American Hockey League.

**Wes Cunningham**  
Humanitarian of the Year

Veteran defenseman Wes Cunningham was active in the Whalers' community relations efforts for the last three seasons. Cunningham scored six goals with 43 assists for 49 points in 55 games this year.

**Michal Jordan**  
Rookie of the Year

Michal Jordan was acquired from Windsor in November, and made an immediate impact on the team as an integral part of the Whalers blue line group. Jordan scored six goals with 22 assists for 28 points and was +2 on the season. Jordan is a prospect in the National Hockey League Entry Draft this summer in Ottawa.



Plymouth right wing Kaine Geldart (left) meets with Whalers head coach Greg Stefan (right) during the Whalers' season-ending banquet Monday night at Ginopolis on the Ice. Photo by Walt Dmoch

**Kaine Geldart**  
Labatt Blue Collar Player of the Year

Plymouth fans loved Kaine Geldart's grit, work ethic and never-say-die attitude on the ice. He scored a career-high 13 goals with 25 assists for 38 points and 99 penalty minutes in 68 games this season. Geldart also received Grinder of the Year honors by the Whaler Booster Club.

**Andrew Fournier**  
Unsung Player of the Year

The Plymouth captain enjoyed his best offensive season with 35 goals and 40 assists for 75 points. Fournier is now playing with Norfolk of the American Hockey League. He also won the Alice Iafrate Award as Overage Player of the Year by the Whalers' Off-Ice Officials.

**Joe Gaynor**  
Most Improved Player of the Year

As a solid defensive forward, Joe Gaynor, received extended ice time for the first time in his career. He scored a career-high nine goals with 10 assists for 19 points in 66 games this season.

**AJ Jenks**  
Academic Player of the Year

AJ Jenks' intelligent play on the ice carried over into the classroom for the second straight season. Jenks—ranked 20th by the NHL's Central Scouting Bureau—scored 26 goals with 29 assists for 55 points in 68 games this season.

Other Whalers Booster Club Awards went to:

**Patrick Lee**  
Player of the Month

Lee scored eight goals with four assists for 12 points in 12 games in March.

Wes Cunningham earned Fan Favorite and Josh Bemis, Scholastic Player of the Year.

## Rockets blast Farmington, start season , 2-0

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

All of the off-season training and hard work during practice paid off for the John Glenn varsity baseball team on Saturday.

The Rockets blasted visiting Farmington in both games of a doubleheader.

Glenn won the first game, 7-6. Senior Robert Fraser earned his first victory on the hill in the first game. He pitched six innings and sat down six batters.

Junior Jacob Sperry warmed up in the seventh frame of the first contest. He earned the save there, and pitched a complete game in the second contest for a win.

Glenn won the second meeting, 12-8.

The offense backed up the pitching staff with some big hits.

Junior Andrew DeLuca was fierce at bat. He went 3-for-6 overall with a triple and double to knock in two. He scored twice. Kevin Lafave

*It is a great way to start a season.*

**Tom Wakefield**

went 2-for-5 with a double and an RBI. John Gillis walked five times.

The victories were despite an injury to one of the team's top senior pitchers and first baseman, Chris Kangas, who dislocated his elbow after catching a foul ball and running into the fence in practice on Friday, according to Glenn Coach Tom Wakefield.

Pending an MRI this week, Wakefield is hopeful to have Kangas back in three-to-four weeks.

"It is a great way to start a season," he said of the wins. "After the blow we had on Friday, losing Kangas, we were able to dig deep and come out with two wins. We have a lot to work on in practice this week. We need to build on the wins this week by having good practices. The practices will be geared toward fine-tuning our fundamentals and our overall mental approach."

Glenn, 2-0, hosts Franklin at 4 p.m. on Friday.

## Soccer

FROM PAGE 11

for a 3-0 advantage in the second half. Stern finished off the scoring when she headed a Yankovich corner kick past the South Lyon goalkeeper with about 22 minutes left in the

game.

"I think we're off to a good start," Meteyer said after the two wins. "As far as the gelling of the team goes, I am real pleased so far. I think we're probably about four weeks ahead of where we thought we would be."

Northville hosts Canton at 7 p.m. on Monday and heads to Novi at 7 p.m. next Friday.

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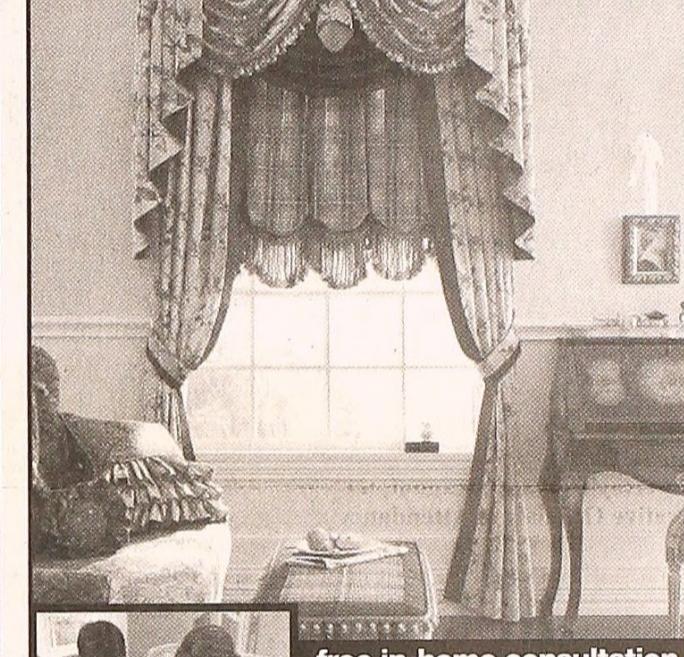
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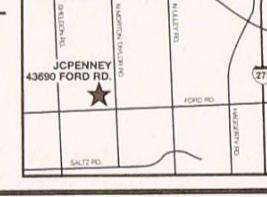


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